

Battle for oil may lead to war, says minister

A scramble for oil could end in a world war, David Howell, the Energy Secretary, said today. The developed world's dependence on oil is being drastically reduced. In Washington he feared that Congress's rejection of an oil tax might prevent President Carter from attending the Venice economic summit to call for international oil conservation.

Vest must cut back on Gulf supplies

Mr Howell's remarks come only days before members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) meet in Algiers to discuss future pricing policy. He gave a warning that it would take the Western world many years to adjust to the changed world of tight supplies and rising prices. This dependence on oil cast a triple shadow across hopes for world stability and peace. It put pressure on supplies and caused damage to Western economies. Enormous pressures were placed on British society by the need to absorb large price increases.

arter foreign policy t by oil-tax defeat

Mr Howell said that it was necessary to escape from the oil trap, with the cooperation of other Community members, the United States and Japan. The International Energy Agency offered an appropriate forum.

Closed shop ruling goes against BR and Britain

By Ian Bradley
The European Commission of Human Rights has found that the dismissal by British Rail of three men because they refused to join a trade union contravenes the European Convention on Human Rights. The commission's report, published yesterday, has already been sent to the European Court. The United Kingdom Government, defendants in the case brought by the three dismissed railwaymen, has now been arraigned before the court and it is expected that the British Rail case will have to be put to the Government's case before a chamber of 10 judges in open court in Strasbourg this autumn. A date for the hearing has not yet been announced.

The commissioners' findings, by a majority of 14 to 3, will inevitably swell the chorus of Conservatives calling for the Employment Bill now going through Parliament to further restrict the operation of the closed shop. Both the Prime Minister in the House of Commons and the Lord Chancellor in the House of Lords insisted that the Bill as it stands fully meets the requirements of the European Convention, to which Britain has been a signatory since 1950.

However, a group of Conservative and crossbench peers, led by Lord De L'Isle, maintain that the Bill does not sufficiently restrict closed shop action to meet the terms of the convention. They have tabled an amendment to the Bill, which will be debated in the House of Lords next week, which they believe would bring the measure within the convention.

The three men in whose favour the commission has found are Mr Roger Webster, aged 57, a retired clerical officer from Tunbridge Wells, Kent; Mr Noel James, aged 51, formerly a leading railwayman from Havant, Hampshire; and Mr John Young, aged 27, formerly a clerical officer and now a law student from South-east London.

All were dismissed by British Rail in 1976 because they refused to comply with a management-union agreement that only members of recognized unions be employed.

Such a closed shop agreement is permissible under the terms of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act of 1974 and 1976, which laid down that employees could only obtain exemption from a closed shop agreement if they belonged to religious denominations which proscribed members from joining unions.

The three men took their case to the European Commission of Human Rights in 1976. They submitted that the enforcement of the two Acts, in allowing their dismissal from employment because they objected on reasonable grounds to join a trade union, interfered with their freedom of thought, conscience, expression and association with others. As such, they argued that the Government was in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights.



A pile of the late Sir Cecil Beaton's hats in his home, Reddish House, near Salisbury, whose contents are being auctioned next week.

Lightning kills 2 boys as fine spell ends

Two schoolboys were killed by lightning yesterday as a violent storm swept Britain. Gary Robinson, aged 14, of Rivington Avenue, Farnborough, Hampshire, was struck while walking between classrooms at Moorhead High School, Accrington. Five other pupils were slightly hurt.

Christopher Bird, aged 13, of Anglesey Road, Brownhills, Staffordshire, was killed on the playing field at Brownhills Comprehensive School during a football match. Wayne Rose, aged 13, of Dingle Road, Claydon, Suffolk, was killed by lightning while playing football on a field near his home. The other two boys, aged 12, of Chapel Avenue, Brownhills, and Julie Davis, aged 12, of London Drive, Brownhills, were taken to hospital with burns.

Describing the Accrington incident last night, Mr Ralph Bailey, headmaster of Moorhead High School, said: "We are all terribly shocked. The pupils had been standing in a group having a chat when the lightning struck. One of my staff saw them all fall to the ground."

"Two physical education teachers were in a building alongside. They were able to start resuscitation within seconds. They did all they could." Mr Bailey, whose school has 1,100 pupils and is built on high ground above the town centre, also praised ambulance men who came from Accrington Victoria Hospital half a mile away. "They were here within three minutes," he said.

30 held in police sweep after robberies

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter
Thirty men and women were being questioned by detectives last night after a two-month investigation into up to 100 robberies and conspiracies stretching from Liverpool to London and involving several hundred thousand pounds.

"Operation Carter", spearheaded by officers from the regional crime squad based at Hatfield, Herefordshire, and aided by the latest major criminal informant, or "super grass", culminated early yesterday in a large police sweep. One hundred and fifty officers drawn from seven regional crime squad officers, local forces and the Metropolitan police raided addresses in Bristol, Swansea, Hertfordshire, Essex, London and the Thames Valley area.

The regional crime squads, formed in the 1960s, have the specific task of dealing with serious crime and the emergence of the "mobile criminal" capable of operating far from his home territory and then returning to base.

Police hold four over bomb blast

Officers from Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad were last night questioning four men in connection with the bomb blast at Catford police station, London, in which a young police constable lost a hand.

Scotland Yard said the men were being interviewed at Rochester Road police station and that there was "no political connexion" with the bombing. Police Constable Stephen Hickling, aged 19, was seriously injured when a torch he picked up and switched on at the Catford station blew up. He has been discharged from hospital. The fund opened for him has reached £68,000.

4 in court today on bullion chage

Four men will appear at Highgate magistrates' court, London, today, charged with armed robbery in connection with the £3m silver bullion raid in Barking, Essex, in March, Scotland Yard said last night.

Lord to itor ne taps

Emergy Editor
Diplock, a senior law chairman of the secret Commission, was today appointed by the Prime Minister to be the "continuous" monitor of that communications intercept which is authorized by the Secretary of State.

It is with particular pride we are able to offer 150 of these colour lithographs to mark the Dali Exhibition at the Tate Gallery. A letter of authenticity certifying Dali's signature will accompany the numbered lithograph, which measures 25 inches x 18 inches.

Condition of two West Bank mayors worsens

The condition of the two Palestinian mayors, maimed in car bomb attacks on Monday, has deteriorated. Mr Shaka, who had to have both legs amputated, was transferred to Jordan for further emergency treatment. There are growing fears in Israel that renewed violence in the occupied West Bank could either of the mayors die. Many Israelis have been shocked by unprecedented government moves to stop Arab shopkeepers striking in protest against the bombings.

Union's nuclear call

The Transport and General Workers' Union wants to force a wider debate in the Labour movement on the deployment of nuclear weapons in Britain. At the Trades Union Congress in September it is to call for unilateral nuclear disarmament, a subject that divided the Labour Party in the 1960s.

Ultimatum for island

Father Walter Lini, Chief Minister of the New Hebrides, has issued a 24-hour ultimatum to Mr Jimmy Stevens, the secessionist leader, to begin negotiations to end the rebellion on Espiritu Santo island. Father Lini backed the ultimatum by threatening police action.

US links with China

By the end of the year the United States and China will have underpinned their relationship with a series of new economic, cultural, scientific and technological agreements.

Callaghan backing by Mr Clive Jenkins

Mr Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, has called for Mr James Callaghan to lead the Labour Party into the next election. Mr Jenkins said the party's Transport and General Workers' Union, proposed changes in the way the leader is elected, but pledged loyalty to the chosen leader.

Lords reform refusal

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has ruled out early reform of the House of Lords. She told the Commons that there were more urgent matters for the Government to consider, disappointing many Conservative MPs including several of her most senior Cabinet colleagues.

Granada plea succeeds

Granada Television won leave to challenge in the House of Lords the Court of Appeal ruling that it must name the person who leaked confidential documents about the British Steel Corporation. Lord Diplock said it was a matter of public importance.

£800m for roads

The Government's programme for important road schemes during the next four years will cost £800m, and the highest priority will go to improving industrial and port routes. But spending will remain much lower than the peak level of the early 1970s.

Defiant Botham hits 57

Jan Botham hit a top score of 57 as England reached 243 for 7 on the first day of the Cornhill Test against the West Indies at Nottingham. Andy Roberts and Joel Garner took three wickets apiece.

'Two peers in 1951 spy inquiries'

Two present members of the House of Lords were questioned after the defection of Burgess and Maclean in 1951, but no conclusive evidence was found against them, Anthony Boyle, the author, said at the launching of a revised edition of his book, *The Climate of Treason*, whose initial publication spurred the revelations of Sir Anthony Blunt's spying.

Heart man dies after 10 weeks

A man who received a new heart 10 weeks ago collapsed and died yesterday as he prepared to leave hospital.

Another man, who received the heart of a boy on Wednesday, was unconscious in a different hospital last night.

The dead man was Mr. John Power, aged 36, Britain's fifth heart transplant patient. He had been transferred from Papworth Hospital, where he received his new heart, to Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester.

That was so he could get ready to go home at the weekend. Earlier this week he said he was looking forward to riding his bicycle.

Mr. Power had this heart transplant three weeks after being told by doctors that he had just a year to live. He was operated on by Mr. Terence English and his team.

The staff at the Wythenshawe Hospital put up a tremendous fight to save Mr. Power's life. He had eaten lunch and was in his private room when he was taken ill.

A hospital spokesman said: "He was being looked after when he seemed to collapse. Doctors and nurses pushed to the room and put the emergency procedure into effect in an attempt to resuscitate him, but regrettably it failed."

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The man still unconscious is Mr. Andrew Peterson, who received the heart of a 16-year-old boy who died of injuries suffered in a road accident.

A hospital bulletin last night said Mr. Peterson was "as well as can be expected considering his critical condition when he came into hospital."



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HOME NEWS

Government will give priority in £800m road programme to improving port communications

By Richard Ford

The Government plans to spend about £800m during the next four years on important new road schemes in England with highest priority being given to improving industrial and port routes.

But spending will remain much lower than the peak level of the early 1970s, and the Government says that there is no longer an increasing programme for major roads.

By the middle 1980s it expects the main network of modern roads to be complete, with the result that there will be fewer, and often smaller, schemes being prepared by the end of the decade.

The proposals for the next 10 years are set out in a White Paper, *Policy for Roads: England 1980*, published yesterday. It is the first comprehensive statement by the Conservative Government of its policy for the trunk road system in England and lists three main priorities.

They are to build and improve industrial routes which aid economic recovery and development, especially in areas where poor communications make it difficult to attract new companies to replace declining industries; to increase the bypass programme; and to spend about £50m each year on road maintenance by speedily clearing the busy M1, M5 and M6.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Minister of Transport, said that the Government had decided that the main part of resources available would be used to improve links between

industrial areas and the ports. "We are going to concentrate resources on the major industrial arteries and by the mid-1980s the majority of the major routes of the national network should be completed."

"We are coming to the end of the era of major motorway construction and the emphasis will shift to by-passes of individual towns and villages and other schemes."

There would be less spending on the roads in the 1980s than there had been in the 1970s, but the Government was stabilizing spending at the level inherited from the Labour Administration.

"Our proposals are more realistic in terms of what is possible. This inevitably means the determination of some less urgent roads, and we have already saved money on design work by announcing the determination of some of the bigger schemes."

The White Paper reveals that the Government plans to spend about £300m annually, at November 1978, prices, on road construction and improvement; but one third of that will be spent on land acquisition, design, construction and preparation and supervision.

It says that traffic is likely to continue to grow, though more slowly than was predicted 10 years ago. "The main network of modern highways, linking the major industrial centres and ports, is almost complete. Our aim now is to fill the remaining gaps and to take trunk road traffic away

from as many communities as possible."

But it gives a warning that even by the end of the decade many communities will still be waiting for much-needed road schemes.

After a study, in consultation with Sir Derek Rayner, who is advising Mrs Margaret Thatcher on eliminating waste in Whitehall, the minister decided to phase out subunits of the road construction unit, whose 1,700 staff carry out detailed design work and supervision of important schemes. Most of their work will be transferred to consultants who are already involved in 30 per cent of design and supervision work for trunk roads.

High priority will be given to completing by 1986 the 120-mile M25 orbital route which will ring London. Similar priority will also be given to orbital routes around Manchester and south Birmingham.

Urgent improvements on main routes leading to Tilbury, Southampton, Felixstowe, Harwich, Hull and London are also planned. In the longer term the M40 from Oxford to Birmingham, and the extension of the North Circular Road to London's dockland will also receive priority.

The White Paper says that by the end of 1983 the Government hopes to have bypassed 13 historic towns. Maintenance will concentrate in particular on the older, most heavily used motorways.

Policy for Roads, England 1980 (Command 7908, Stationery Office, £3.50p).

New 'loyalist' political murders feared

From Christopher Thomas

Carnlough, Co Antrim. The spectre of political assassination by "loyalist" extremists has been raised by the public murder of a wealthy Protestant politician in the picturesque village of Carnlough, on the Antrim coast.

Mr John Lacey, a controversial Larnac district councillor who advocated the removal of the British presence from Ulster, was shot in full view of a crowd by three masked men on Wednesday evening.

Mr Lacey, 57, was a member of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, and was elected to the Larnac district council in 1973. He was a member of the Larnac district council in 1973. He was a member of the Larnac district council in 1973.

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Arrests put police in sunny mood

From Arthur Osman

Torquay

After a fairly introspective conference about their role in society and the often critical examination of it by the press, chief police officers at Torquay yesterday were delighted to be back on familiar ground with news of a series of arrests in the Home Counties.

From being the "anxious or worried top cops" of a day or so before, they became "jubilant" and "in the mood" as the weather that had blessed their joint conference with metropolitan, authorities and county council.

Mr David Powis, Deputy Assistant Commissioner in charge of the CID in London, reflected the mood when he said that he hoped that the intensive detective work which had led to the arrests could soon be deployed on street offences and burglaries in London.

Areas such as Brixton and Stoke Newington would benefit greatly from such close police activity by experienced officers, bearing in mind that during a recent weekend there were 35 cases of street muggings in Brixton alone.

Mr Harry Purcell, chairman of the police committee of the Association of County Councils, told the conference that British should have a national police force.

Mr Purcell, from Hereford and Worcester County Council, discussed the accountability of the police and said that he always felt irritation that in all the public debate on the topic a little attention was paid to the role of the police authority.

"There is an existing mechanism expressly designed to reflect the wishes of the community through the local authority with new ideas for over-democratic system. Why mess with police activities when you already have the police authority for that purpose?" he asked.

The forces organized in areas across the country and reflecting local government boundaries should be retained.

When "the arguments sometimes put forward in favour of a national police force or regional police forces, the need to deploy men over areas wider than a single force, the need for specialist services and equipment which a single force cannot provide on its own, I reflect that these are problems common in greater or lesser degree to the majority of local authorities."

Mr Purcell urged the avoidance of the sort of monolithic structure that would soon endanger the whole attitude to "policing by consent" and the relationship of the police to local communities.

But even the most scrupulous practitioner could pick up ideas by sitting on panels for review committees or on panels for awarding grants, some individuals genuinely did not recognize where they had picked up an idea. Other eminent scientists seemed to thrive on casting about their ideas as widely as possible.

Secretiveness began to intrude after the splitting of the atom, and the freedom of exchange between nuclear physicists, which had been a



The three women entrants in the "Observer" single-handed transatlantic yacht race due to start from Plymouth tomorrow: from the left, Dame Naomi James, of Britain, Judith Lawson, of the United States, and Florence Arthaud, of France.

90 set for lone life on the ocean

From John Young

Plymouth

About 90 yachts, of widely varying shapes and sizes, will leave Plymouth tomorrow at the start of the sixth single-handed transatlantic race, organized by the Royal Western Yacht Club and The Observer.

The exact total will not be known until tomorrow, because by yesterday afternoon one or two intending competitors had yet to arrive. The fleet will be joined by two boats whose skippers failed to qualify on technical grounds, and by one which failed the organizers' scrutiny.

The fleet is considerably smaller than for the last race, four years ago, when 125 yachts took part. That is the result not of diminishing enthusiasm

but of the decision this year to limit both entries and individual boat size to reduce congestion and the risk of collisions at the start.

Nonetheless, the whole character and status of the race has changed astonishingly in the 20 years since Lieutenant-Colonel "Blondie" Hasler, leader of the wartime "Cockleshell Heroes", issued what was little more than a private challenge for a contest which at the time was widely considered irresponsible. That first race, which attracted a mere five competitors, was won by the late Sir Francis Chichester.

Despite two fatalities in the 1975 race, opposition on the grounds of safety has all but disappeared. This year there are entries from 17 nations, including three in Eastern Europe, and for the first time the British contingent is outnumbered by those from the United States and France.

Among those including reputedly Hasler, who was not at Plymouth yesterday and was

said to be in Scotland, who regret the degree to which the race has been commercialized by sponsorship.

Indeed, the scenes this week around the rather scruffy Millbay dock, the general appearance of which has not been enhanced by large piles of scrap metal, have been little short of frenetic, albeit mostly good humoured.

Reporters and camera teams, scrambling over boats and each other to interview and photograph competitors, have possibly been outnumbered by public relations people and representatives of the sponsors.

The competitors, however, have accepted the circus atmosphere with tolerance, knowing that from tomorrow they will have all the peace and solitude they could want.

It is the French, more than any other nation, who have helped to make the contest a matter of national prestige. Their hero, Eric Tabarly, winner of the 1964 and 1976 races, is officially out of action this year, having damaged his

shoulder in a skiing fall, but was expected in Plymouth last night with a slim chance that he might take the helm of Paul Ricard, one of the two "unofficial" entries.

Christian Favier, a journalist on a French yachting magazine, explained that the British and large see themselves as challenging the elements; the French dismiss that as mere romanticism and are interested only in beating the others.

The most significant innovation this year is the use of the Argos satellite system, which will keep a constant computerized check on the position of every yacht. Its main purpose is to increase safety, but it will allow the public to follow the progress of the race throughout.

Judy Lawson, an American and one of the three women entrants, confesses that she finds the idea of "an eye in the sky" staring down at me a trifle disconcerting, but concedes that this is far outweighed by the safety advantages.

Comparisons with doctors' pay not like with like, ministry admits

Nurses rebut Thatcher claim of equal treatment

By Annabel Ferriman

Health Services Correspondent

Government claims that doctors and nurses have been treated equally over the past two years, but the number of nurses has increased so the pay bill has gone up by 65 per cent.

The increase in the average doctors' pay has been about 65 per cent. The number of doctors has increased by at least 2,000 over that period, but the department has not disclosed the total increase in the doctors' pay bill.

The figures are likely to be discussed at today's meeting of the Royal College of Nursing's council. An extraordinary meeting has been called to consider a ballot of members on the college's policy of no industrial action, after the demand by its annual conference last month for a new policy.

Miss Valerie Cowie, director of the college's labour relations and legal department, said yesterday that if the Government was not comparing like with like, that completely

undermined its argument that doctors and nurses were being treated alike.

"When we went to see the Prime Minister, we were asking for the same favourable treatment as doctors, to which her response was that we were being treated no less favourably. It was just that the doctors' catching up had taken a little longer than ours."

Miss Cowie said that she would like to see the Government justify those figures. The nurses' delegation to Mrs Thatcher had been puzzled at the time because it could not find one grade of nurse who would have had a 65 per cent increase if the 14 per cent was accepted.

Taking the period from April 1978 to April 1980, and assuming a 14 per cent increase this year, staff nurses would have received a 61 per cent increase, ward sisters 61 per cent, first-year students 53 per cent and nursing auxiliaries 45 per cent.

Mr Jenkins repeated the claim that doctors and nurses had received about the same over

the last two years at the West Midlands area women's conference at Cheltenham yesterday: 66 per cent over two years for the doctors, and 65.5 per cent for the nurses.

The British Medical Association agreed yesterday that doctors had received about 65 per cent. "They received 25 per cent in April 1979, and 25 per cent this year, and when these two are compounded, it makes 65 per cent," a spokesman said.

The 25 per cent has to be added to the average salary before the 32 per cent is calculated and added on.

Nurses have received a series of pay awards since April 1978. The Royal College of Nursing said they received 9 per cent in April 1979, 19.5 per cent from the Clegg award, a reduction in hours equivalent to 6.7 per cent and have now been offered 14 per cent.

If each percentage is added to the average wage, before the next percentage is calculated and added on, the total comes to 58.5 per cent.

Most were discharged within a few hours, but one or two were expected to be kept in overnight. Most of the casualties were women.

British Rail immediately began an investigation as an internal inquiry is expected to be opened today. It said that the collision was the third passenger train accident this year in the Scottish region.

The train of empty coaches had left Dalmeir at 9.15 am, but had given way to scheduled services and was waiting outside Partickhill station before going into the siding at the Hyndland coach depot.

The inquiry would want to know why the coaches were there when a passenger train was imminent on that section of the line.

Later British Rail said that train services on the line at the

Fears of racial outburst remain, minister told

By Our Home Affairs

Correspondent

Fears remain, because of lack of government action, that "violent and horrific outbursts" like that at Bristol will be repeated, the Standing Conference of Afro-Caribbean and Asian Councils yesterday told Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State at the Home Office.

The standing conference, to which 16 London borough councillors belong, said that protests were justifiable about certain forms of police action, including harassment of black and Asian people through use of the "sus" (Vagrancy Act) legislation.

The role of the Commission for Racial Equality needed reviewing, the councillors said. Continued unemployment, bad housing and disgraceful recreational facilities remained a threat to race relations.

No cuts should be made to the urban programme, and a public inquiry should be held into what happened in the St Pauls area of Bristol.

"If this Government continues to ignore the needs of the ethnic communities as it has done up to now, then it is only a matter of time before we see a repetition of the events of Bristol all over Britain."

Mr Russell Proffitt, of Lewisham, spokesman for the conference, said afterwards that the Government appeared to be showing a great realization of the need not to cut back on aid.

Mr Raison had ruled out a public inquiry into the troubles at Bristol, but was planning to visit the city.

Thirty-six hurt when passenger train crashes into stationary coaches

From Our Correspondent

Glasgow

Thirty-six passengers were taken to hospital yesterday, most with abrasions and cuts, after a passenger train crashed into the rear of three stationary coaches half a mile from Partickhill station, Glasgow. Two coaches were derailed.

It was thought last night that dislocated train timings caused by an electrical fault affecting signalling may have been a contributory cause to the collision.

The injured passengers, who were on the 9.27 am Dalmeir to Motherwell electric train, were taken to three hospitals. Twelve went to the Western Infirmary, where the train driver and a guard were given a medical check and discharged, 15 were taken to the Southern General Hospital and nine to Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

Genetic engineers accused of breaking code of conduct

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

Commercial opportunities are leading molecular biologists engaged in fundamental genetic engineering research to break the general code of conduct applying to the work. It was alleged yesterday at a meeting of the Royal Society.

The accusation was made by Dr John Edsall, emeritus professor of biological chemistry at Harvard University, in the opening address of a discourse on the social responsibilities of scientists organized with the American Philosophical Society.

Three "issues" could cause scientists and engineers difficulty in deciding what constituted a responsible course of action: the behaviour of those engaged in basic research; the social and political issues of science and technology; and the action of professional scientific and technical staff employed on government or industrial projects who believed they had discovered a flaw in plans, designs or

Mr Mint damages public ap

By Our Education

Correspondent

A large number of colleges, polytechnics and universities are reporting a marked reduction in the number of overseas students accepting places for courses starting this autumn, according to a survey published today by the United Kingdom Council for Overseas Student Affairs.

The survey was made in April and May among 40 institutions catering for a fifth of the overseas students in Britain. Of 33 that were able to compare this

year's acceptances with those at the same date last year, 22 reported a decrease, seven said they had about the same number, and four reported an increase.

On average the institutions expect intake this autumn to be 14 per cent down on last year.

The council calls for fees concessions for overseas students already on non-advanced courses in Britain who had been hoping to go on to higher education, and for students from the developing world.

Contents of unopened bales held under interim financing high quality valuable.

PERSIAN AND AFGHAN CARPETS and fine handmade rugs of mixed origins

This auction has been forced by recent events in countries of origin on the parties in Europe financing this transaction to realize immediate funds for this consignment.

TRANSFERRED FROM STORAGE WAREHOUSE FOR CONVENIENCE OF AUCTION TO: COMMONWEALTH SUITE HOLIDAY INN (MARBLE ARCH) 134 GEORGE STREET, LONDON W1 SATURDAY 7TH JUNE 11.30AM INSPECTION 10 AM Terms: Cash or certified cheques

Appointed Auctioneers: DAVID HANFORD & COMPANY Specialist Auctioneers of fine Oriental rugs 18 Melcombe St, Dorset Sq, London N.W.1 Tel: 01-262 6628

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By Stewart Tendle

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Smokele rooms on offer afte

By Our Health S

Correspondent

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THE NEWS

Report
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MP wants new
dock to handle
Windscale waste

From Our Correspondent
Cockermouth
Dr John Cunningham, Labour
MP for Whitehaven, wants a
dock to be built to overcome
the difficulties of transporting
radio-active waste and fuel to
the Windscale nuclear plant at
Windscale, West Cumbria.
At present the waste is taken
by road after being shipped into
ports at Workington and Bar-
row. People living in the towns
and on the routes have pro-
tested.
In a letter to the chairman
of the Atomic Energy Authority
and the Government, Dr Cun-
ningham, a former Under-Sec-
retary of State for Energy, said:
"Consideration should be given
to the construction of a dock at
Windscale so that cargoes of all
kinds can be landed directly on
the site. There is significant
opposition in Barrow and Work-
ington to the handling of
nuclear materials in the docks
and their subsequent transport
through these towns



Police Constable Trevor Locke (right), a hostage in the Iranian Embassy siege, back on duty yesterday. With him is Supt E. Jones

Have-a-go workers foil wage raiders

Two men were stabbed yesterday while they struggled with three masked raiders and foiled a wages clerk also had his hand slashed by the robbers during the raid at Courtauld's factory in Ormskirk Road, An-
tree, Liverpool.

The robbers, who were wearing balaclava helmets, ran off, dropping a sack filled with wage packets when about 20 factory workers gave chase.

One of the injured men, a security worker, was stabbed in the stomach and his col-

league, an engineering lab-
ourer who went to his aid, re-
ceived a back wound. Both were
taken to Walton Hospital for
surgery. Two other employees
were also taken to the hospital.

The men were among a group
sorting wage packets when the
gang burst in. They were
ordered at knifepoint to lie on
the floor, but they fought back.

Police said that the raiders
escaped in a stolen Ford Cor-
vina car driven by a fourth
man. It was abandoned in
Helsby Road, Liverpool, about
half a mile away.

Mr Reginald Newman, site
manager at the factory, praised
the bravery of the injured staff.
"There was several thousand
pounds in wage packets ready
to be paid out to hundreds of
our workers", he said. "As a
result of the courageous actions
of our employees who had a go
we believe the amount the rob-
bers got away with was mini-
mal."

The gang broke into the
wages office at about 10 am,
the time the workers are usu-
ally paid.

Children's
lunch
box check
called off

From Our Correspondent
Taunton

Medical spot checks on lunch
boxes taken to school by 250
children in Somerset have been
ended after objections by
education chiefs.

The checks were started by
Somerset Area Health
Authority so that experts could
discover the quality and
quantity of food taken by
children who do not have
school meals, but Mr Barry
Taylor, the chief education
officer, said yesterday that they
must stop until a properly pre-
pared paper justifying the
inquiry had been approved.

The process could prove
embarrassing to some children
and it is unacceptable to a
number of parents. If research
of this kind is justified, and I
doubt if it is, it should be
sponsored nationally", Mr
Taylor said.

Mr Tony Downe-Brenan, the
Somerset education chairman,
said: "I am most annoyed that
the survey has taken place and
I would not have approved it
if I had been asked."
Dr Alan Parry Jones, the
area medical officer, said:
"One parent objected. It was
a spot check on only a day or
two to see if children's packed
lunches were nutritionally ade-
quate."

Nine hurt in bus crash

Nine passengers suffered
minor injuries yesterday when
a double-deck bus and a lorry
collided at Clifton, near
Mansfield, Notts.

Minister warns councils of action
if permitted spending is exceeded

By Ian Bradley

Budgets that are available
show that local authorities are
intending to increase their spend-
ing by more than 5 per cent
above the level requested by
the Government, Mr Tom King,
Minister for Local Government
and Environmental Services,
said yesterday.

He told a Conservative wom-
en's Advisory Conference at
Cheltenham: "It is true that
budgets have not in the past
been a totally accurate indica-
tion of the amounts eventually
spent."

Yet even if there is some
overstatement contained in
these budgets, all past experi-
ence would indicate that the
proposed level is still well
above what the Government
has requested.

The challenge is now with
local government to demon-
strate that they will be able to
ensure that targets are ac-
hieved. If local authorities can-

not respond to this request in
an effective way then clearly
we will be forced to look at
other ways of achieving our ob-
jective", he said.

"I do not wish at this stage
to discuss such possibilities, as
certainly the Government, and
I know responsible local au-
thorities as well, would much pre-
fer the necessary improvements
to be achieved by councils them-
selves without further interven-
tion by the Government."

Meanwhile, Mr Roy Hatters-
ley, opposition spokesman on
the environment, has promised
that the next Labour govern-
ment will restore financial
autonomy to local government.

Speaking at the annual con-
ference of the Chartered Insti-
tute of Public Finance and
Accountancy in Bristol, Mr
Hattersley said: "Whilst it is
both right and necessary for
the Government to decide what
central resources are available
for local authority spending, it

is intolerable for those central
resources to be divided and
distributed in a way which com-
pels and coerces individual
councils to take decisions which
their elected representatives
believe to be against the inter-
ests of their areas.

"To distribute a grant in a
way that punishes and penalises
councils that either raise higher
rates than the Government
thinks necessary or spend more
on services than the Govern-
ment thinks right is a denial of
local democracy."

Mr Hattersley promised that
a future Labour government,
having notified each council of
its grant expectation for the
year, would then leave indi-
vidual local authorities free to
make their own decisions about
what local revenue they raised.

"A council that can carry its
responsibilities for higher levels
of services should not be impeded
in its intentions by the gen-
tlemen in Whitehall", he said.

Councils advised on ways to raise cash

From Our Correspondent
Bradford

More than a hundred repre-
sentatives of councils from
Cornwall to Dundee took part
in a one-day seminar at Brad-
ford yesterday to learn how
local authorities with financial
difficulties could raise an extra
£1m a year.

Bradford City Council called
the conference to pass on in-
formation about its pioneering
ventures which it hopes will be
saving ratepayers £200,000
annually within a couple of
years. Officials at Bradford
believe that nationally at least
£1m could be earned by coun-

cils with risk-free enterprise.

To prove their point about
the opportunities from adver-
tising and sponsorship they paid
the cost of arranging the semi-
nar with the proceeds from
advertisements.

Delegates heard about some
of Bradford's successful ven-
tures such as enclosing adver-
tisements with race bills and
voting register forms. They
were also told about the pitfalls
and given a few of Bradford's
latest ideas which have yet to
be tried, such as sponsored
flowerbeds and playing com-
mercial signature tunes on the
City Hall carillon.

Mr Gordon Moore, the coun-
cil's chief executive, said:
"Local government throughout
the United Kingdom is faced
with the same problems of pub-
lic expenditure. We think it is
good commercial sense to set
about running a council on
commercial lines."

"There are some problems to
overcome but the potential is
enormous, because councils
throughout the country own
thousands of properties and
thousands of vehicles, and send
millions of documents which
must be attractive to
advertisers."

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got in your hands. The performance, handling,
superb roadholding, comfort and safety will give
undoubted pleasure to the most discerning
motorist. A truly unique sense of roadcraft. Add
the enormous load carrying capacity and unique
ventilation as just some of the many features
packed into a sleek body, and you've got a car that
meets all your needs, without compromise. Once
you've driven the SAAB 900 GLS, you'll know why it's
the car that's Born to Lead.



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PARLIAMENT, June 5, 1980

Strong support from Mr Whitelaw for continuance of SPG

House of Commons. The Special Patrol Group was an important mobile reserve of police which had done a considerable job in the Metropolitan area and he strongly supported its continuance, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said at question time.

Asked by Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) whether he would advise chief constables to extend training in riot control to all officers and to increase SPG manpower and supply of equipment for the control of riots and terrorist attacks, Mr Whitelaw said he would prefer to wait the outcome of the review of arrangements for handling spontaneous disorders which he announced on April 28.

Mr Winterton—Many on the Conservative side very much support the SPG. The work it does is vital in the maintenance of law and order.

It is significant that the vast majority of those bodies or individuals who criticise the SPG also seek to undermine the police as a whole. It is a pity that many of these bodies, including the Anti-Nazi League, have been taken over by the Socialist Workers' Party.

Mr Whitelaw—Some changes have been made by the Committee recently. They are right. The basic work done in the group is of enormous importance.

Mr Sydney Bidwell (Bellingham, South, Lab)—It is misleading to say we can quote what is required in the police system for civil disturbances arising from riots and face activity with dealing with terrorism.

In the case of the disclosures made at the Brixton Prison, although it has not been pointed out that one particular officer, guilty, it has revealed considerable questions about the behaviour of the police about the weapons kept in police lockers.

Will he keep under continuous review the question of the SPG on occasions of civil disorder? (Conservative protests and interruptions.)

Mr Whitelaw—I would be wrong to make comments which could be used later on in judicial proceedings which may yet arise.

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Home Secretary wholly opposed to development of paramilitary police

The Home Secretary twice emphasised the responsibility of those organising, or taking part in, marches and demonstrations to make sure they took place without violence when he answered a question about the number of assaults on the police.

Mr Christopher Price (Leisham, West, Lab)—Could Mr Whitelaw join with the House in sending a good message to the police by saying that he was not in favour of a police force which had its hand blown off a few weeks ago?

Mr Whitelaw—The Home Secretary is not in favour of a police force which has its hand blown off a few weeks ago. He is in favour of a police force which is able to deal with the situation in a way which is consistent with the law.

Mr Christopher Price—The Home Secretary is not in favour of a police force which has its hand blown off a few weeks ago. He is in favour of a police force which is able to deal with the situation in a way which is consistent with the law.

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police methods. Those methods are right and we must persist with them.

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and we must all hope that it is possible that this may be a major factor in the future. The response shown by the police in the past has been a good one.

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Wage rises pricing firms out of existence

Some wage increases, totally unrelated to productivity, were pricing firms out of the market, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said.

Mr Christopher Price—The Home Secretary is not in favour of a police force which has its hand blown off a few weeks ago. He is in favour of a police force which is able to deal with the situation in a way which is consistent with the law.

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Open-ended subsidy for overseas students needed to be curtailed

Overseas students, especially from the Commonwealth, were being subsidised by the Government at a rate which was unsustainable, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said.

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Because of the arbitrary and open-ended nature of the subsidy provided, in the year 1979-80 the cost of the policy to the taxpayer amounted to £127m, compared with £105m in 1978-79. It was a totally arbitrary subsidy which was open-ended and which was not subject to any control.

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The Times Special Reports.

All the subject matter on all the subjects that matter.

Revision of law on prostitution must await review findings

House of Lords. Any violence caused by abolishing prostitution would be vastly outweighed by the benefits of keeping it, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, said at question time.

Enterprise zones will not be foisted on councils

The Opposition amendment to enterprise zones considered in the committee stage of the Finance Bill yesterday was rejected by 160 votes to 120, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said.

Shares in state corporations not ruled out

The possibility of a scheme under which the citizens could take shares in nationalised corporations, Mrs Thatcher said, was not ruled out.

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Mme Simone Veil, President of the European Parliament, and Mr Paul Martin, the former Canadian High Commissioner in Britain, before receiving honorary law degrees at Cambridge University yesterday.

France hit by strikes in protest over plans for health service

From Ian Murray
Paris, June 5
The lights went out all over France again today as part of a third day of strikes against the new structure for the national health service being put forward by the Government. As on the last "Day of Action" on May 23, the demonstrations and strikes were supported by the confederation of French doctors' unions, which represent about 80 per cent of the profession.

The main disruption caused by the call for a 24-hour stoppage was once again in the electricity industry, where a reduction of power during the morning meant that cuts of up to half an hour had to be imposed almost everywhere. Railway services were reduced by up to a third in some areas and an average of 13 per cent of the postmen did not report for duty. Demonstrations were called all over the country.

But once again the united opposition to the new scheme was marked by the profound differences of opinion about the best tactics with which to oppose it.

Bonn raises taxes to pay EEC bill

Bonn, June 5—West Germany today announced projected tax measures to help cover the extra EEC payments it will have to make because of last week's agreement in Brussels to cut Britain's contribution to the Community budget.

Britain must wait longer for Community refund

From Michael Romsby
Brussels, June 5
Britain will have to wait rather longer than expected "to get its money back" from the rest of the European Economic Community under the compromise reached here last week on reducing British contributions to the Community budget.

Woman makes prisoners release hostage

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, June 5
After a young woman social worker had pleaded with them to surrender quietly, a small group of prisoners at Sion Jail, in the Valais, today released a woman, after holding him hostage for 12 hours and gave themselves up to police.

Islands meet in Berlin German Catholic Day

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Talks on nuclear safeguards pact to be speeded up

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OVERSEAS Israel concerned at West Bank security as condition of mayors in bomb attacks worsens

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, June 5
The condition of the two Palestinian mayors named in car bomb attacks earlier this week has deteriorated. Mr Bassam Shaka, who had both legs amputated after the explosion, was taken to Jordan today for emergency treatment to counter gangrene.

A worsening was also reported in the condition of Mr Karim Khalaf, the mayor of Ramallah, who is being treated in the town's general hospital. A medical bulletin said that his temperature had risen sharply and that he was suffering severe pain in one leg.

Earlier this week, I was one of three journalists permitted to interview both injured mayors in their hospital beds. At the time, Mr Khalaf appeared in the worst overall condition. Both men were insistent on meeting a succession of Arab well-wishers and on restating their pledge to continue fighting for the Palestine cause.

Mr Ramsey Clark to lead Iran inquiry

From Tony Alloway
Tehran, June 5
Two American clergymen yesterday launched a student militants holding 50 American hostages and handed over mail from some of the hostages' families, one of them revealed today.

How Iranian mob rallied voters to Mr Carter and hurt Kennedy chances

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, June 5
This time last year, President Carter's popularity was sinking steadily downwards. A man who had brought no shame and no disaster on the nation was less popular than President Nixon when he was about to be impeached. He was thought to have failed in everything he had set out to do and very few of his compatriots were prepared to give him credit for anything.

At the same time, the same opinion poll showed clearly, as they had for the past decade, that Senator Edward Kennedy was the most popular of Democrats. It became increasingly obvious that President Carter could not possibly win re-election and that if Mr Kennedy decided to run against him for the Democratic nomination, he would sweep the country.

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Vengeance raids on Israel soon PLO says

From Robert Fisk
Beirut, June 5
The determination of the Palestinian guerrilla movement to avenge the car-bomb attacks on the West Bank mayors took more tangible shape today when the man who has planned some of the bloodiest raids into Israel in the past three years announced that "revolutionary operations" would soon be undertaken against Israel.

Mr Khalil al-Wazir — better known under his guerrilla name of Abu Jihad — is effectively second in command to Mr Yasser Arafat. In a Beirut newspaper interview published today he claimed that the Government of Mr Menachem Begin was the mastermind behind the bomb attacks.

Clearly anticipating new raids by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Israel bombed southern Lebanon again during the night, this time shelling the waterfront near the city of Sidon 25 miles south of Beirut. The Israeli military command had announced that it had attacked "Palestinian guerrilla positions" in the port although at least one rocket exploded in a coffee house, apparently killing a civilian. The Israeli military command had announced that it had attacked "Palestinian guerrilla positions" in the port although at least one rocket exploded in a coffee house, apparently killing a civilian.

When an Israeli aircraft passed over the city this morning, its contrails were followed by a path of shell-bursts. The Phantom jet was flying too high and too fast for the Palestinians to hit it and the Lebanese went about their shopping in Hamra Street, indifferent to the puffs of white smoke in the sky above them or the shrapnel that inevitably clattered on the roofs.

But the Palestinians are quite happy with the results: their gunfire serves to remind the population of what is happening on the West Bank.

This was also the purpose of Abu Jihad's words in the leftist newspaper *al-Sabeel* this morning. "The Begin Government is the mastermind of the car bombings," he said of the car bombings. "Extremism are only the tools of execution." By threatening retaliation, Mr al-Wazir was, of course, also helping to maintain the palpable anxiety now being felt in the Arab world about events in the occupied Arab territories.

Mr al-Wazir organized the raid on the Tel Aviv-Haifa highway in 1978 in which Palestinian guerrillas killed 23 Israeli and foreign civilians. The operation, he provoked Israel's invasion of southern Lebanon. He is also believed to have been responsible for the attack in which six Israeli settlers were shot dead in Hebron last month.

There were further artillery duels between Palestinian and Christian militia forces in southern Lebanon last night. One Lebanese civilian was reported killed in the guerrilla-controlled market town of Nabatieh during the shelling.

Venice summit may recognize Palestinians

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, June 5
At their summit meeting in Venice next week, European Economic Community heads of government are expected to state publicly for the first time that the Palestinian Liberation Organization should be involved directly in Middle East peace negotiations and in any settlement.

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Cuban exodus shows brutal side of Castro regime

Peter Strafford

personal feud with the United States, President Castro has been able to retain his individualism.

Peter Strafford

ailed to ans

drawing you send the economy into a tail-spin," the Prime Minister said. "It is an act of almost calculated brutality." He suggested that there should be a stand-off period during which the money remains available and the two parties get to work on finding a solution.

The official pointed out that the failure of the test was foreseen well in advance and talks had been under way for some time on methods of avoiding the final break. No acceptable remedy was found and, even if that hurdle had been crossed, there was no sign of things getting better this year.

As for the general contention that the IMF had been beastly and ungenerous, the official said: "Jamaica represents a maximum an effort as the fund

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The official pointed out that the failure of the test was far from seen as a disaster and that there had been under way for some time on methods of avoiding the final break. No acceptable remedy was found and, even if it had been, it would have cost too much. There was no sign of things getting better this year.

As for the general contention that the IMF had been beating the drum for a free market, he said: "Jamaica represents a maximum an effort as the fund

country. . . . Jamaica and the Philippines are the only coun-

und was dabei unterbrochen wurde, nicht auf. Er unterbrach mich, indem er sagte: „Ich werde wirklich gerne mit Jaimez zusammenkommen, um zu diskutieren, wie wir zurück zu den Verhandlungen mit uns““, er sagte. „Wer immer gewinnt die Wahl (erwartet in den nächsten Jahren) ich denke, die Chancen sind groß, dass sie wieder kommen werden. Aber sie werden nicht zurück kommen. Sie werden nicht zurück kommen. Sie werden nicht zurück kommen.“

Wenn die Opposition Jaimez Labour Party, die von Mr. Edward Sengco, einem bekannten Politiker, angeführt wird, eine solche Akkommodation erreichen könnte, wäre das ein großer Schritt. Aber es ist nicht leicht, das zu erreichen. Die Opposition würde sich mit Jaimez auseinandersetzen müssen, um zu verhindern, dass er die Wahl gewinnt. Die Opposition würde sich mit Jaimez auseinandersetzen müssen, um zu verhindern, dass er die Wahl gewinnt. Die Opposition würde sich mit Jaimez auseinandersetzen müssen, um zu verhindern, dass er die Wahl gewinnt.

Michael Leapman

church

Muslims are feeling an unusual self-confidence because of the material promptings from Libya and the growth in the international power of Islam.

Manila expresses the shifts of international influence even in apparently unimportant details: The noisiest tourists, for instance, are the Japanese who are ahead of the Arabs and a long way more tiresome than former champions such as the British groups. The Germans, who are shouted and splashed into embarrassed silence in the swimming pools and bars.

A strange legal action was going on in Manila as to which courts—the Philippine courts or the United States military courts—would respect the cases involving a United States serviceman's wife and his Philippine mistress. The "Hijoe" approach to any Westerner gives an impression that the Philippines are still solidly American in their sympathies.

There is, at the same time, a feeling that loyalties are turning to an Asian view of the future of the Philippines. The greater importance of the Philippines to the United States after Vietnam is clear enough. The way the Philippines uses this leverage

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A strange legal action was going on in Manila as to which courts—the Philippine courts or the United States military courts—were responsible for the rape of a United States serviceman's wife and his Philippine mistress. The "Hijoe" approach to any Westerner gives an impression that the Philippines are still solidly American in their sympathies.

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defence requirements that must be observed, and on an assessment of who is making most noise in the swimming pools. There should be no surprise if the Philippines soon features more prominently in the news.

SPORT

Cricket

No England player touches Botham's heights

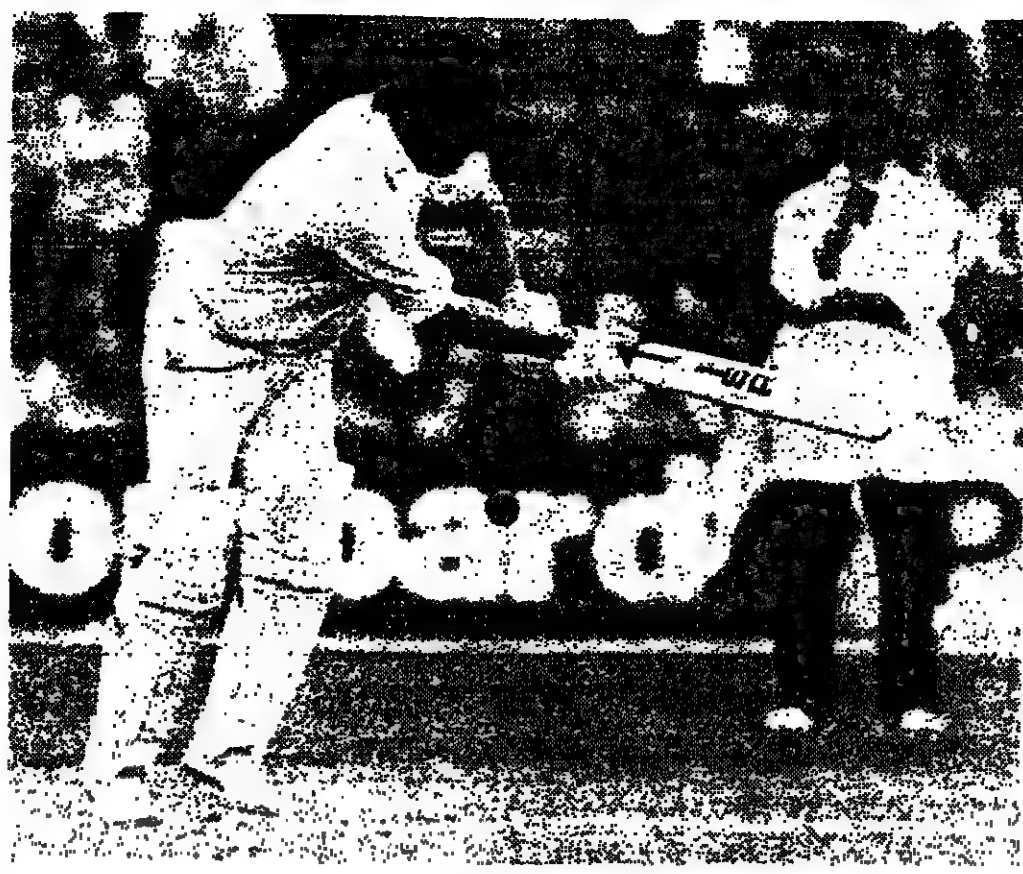
By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
NOTTINGHAM: England have scored 243 for seven.

Ian Botham wasted no time in leading by example when the first Test match against West Indies started at Trent Bridge yesterday. Coming in when England were struggling at 1 for 0, he scored 57, an innings which included 10 successive balls, a hook for six off Garner and an over drive for six off Roberts. With no one else touching similar heights, England, at the end, were 243 for seven, which can barely be adequate if West Indies have such favourable conditions for batting.

On any ordinary day's cricket—a day, like this, of six hours—comfortably over 100 overs will be bowled. In the old days it would have been 120—perhaps 130. Yesterday it was 84. Although England scored almost three times as many runs as the West Indies, it was not as if they were batting with ease. The one slow innings was Woolmer's and there were reasons for that. It is a long time since he played against bowling as unrelenting as this, and he has a lot to prove. Nor was he in particularly good form. It was a pity, too, to have a sheet anchor, Woolmer's 46 took him 3 hours 20 minutes. It was an innings full of resolution, played with a helmet.

After 70 for nine and 200 for 4 (with Botham going well) and Woolmer still there, England's closing score was disappointing. But that is as it often is when England are batting and the West Indies are bowling. Even when they are not in opposition. On such a glorious day the West Indians did well, in spite of the fact that they were batting with ease. This time it was Roberts and Garner who took most of the wickets, the most important being Botham's. In 11 minutes Botham had opened up the most heartening possibilities.

It was significant that when the England selectors time since he played against bowling as unrelenting as this, and he has a lot to prove. Nor was he in particularly good form. It was a pity, too, to have a sheet anchor, Woolmer's 46 took him 3 hours 20 minutes. It was an innings full of resolution, played with a helmet.



Woolmer: acted as a sheet anchor in an innings full of resolution.

attached to each of them. It was Underwood who was told he was not to be needed. With West Indies leaving Parry out, only the two batsmen, Richards and Willey, were left to provide any spin. Throughout the morning the sun came and went. In a light breeze, the pitch was a little dry, and on as good a pitch as an opening batsman could ever wish for, the pattern of the day was soon established. For a while England would move along quite comfortably, only to lose the wicket of a batsman who was getting set. So, at 27, Gooch, who had played better than Boycott until then, was caught at the wicket down the leg side, trying to fend off a rising ball from Roberts. And at 72, after he had been in for 70 minutes, Tavaré was bowled by a fast break-

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chances. Gower may. Because he had played some lovely strokes it was all the sadder to see him go.

Having dropped Boycott when he was four and Gower when he was 14, the West Indians put down Woolmer before he had scored and Botham when he was 20. Woolmer's was a funny business. It was his fifth ball, the last of the first over, which he had been bowled, and he edged it low between first and second slip.

This apart, Botham was splendid. With him in full cry and an hour of the day left and the sun still shining England had the initiative for the only time. If anything, Botham began to find it all too dangerous. At 11, he was out, having been bowled by Garner. He was laughing and joking with Garner, his Somerset colleague. Perhaps his concentration lapsed. In any event, he was out as soon as play resumed, brilliantly caught in the gully by Richards, diving to his left.

Five minutes later Woolmer's right ended when he was caught at the wicket off Roberts. After one scorching cover drive Willey was bowled by Marshall, and could be grateful that nothing worse befell them. If the weather broke their score could be better than it deserves. Lloyd, too, is wounded, having had to have three stitches in a split right hand.

After Greenidge, diving to his left, had dropped the ball found its way into the left hand of a batsman who was not Botham's was a straightforward chance to Greenidge at second slip off Marshall in the first over after 14.

ENGLAND: First Innings
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Final place reward for Mrs Lloyd the fighter

From Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent
Paris, June 5

For two consecutive days players and spectators at the Roland Garros have been watching in amazement the performance of the French tennis champion, Mrs. Lloyd, who has been playing on a slow, clay court, against a more powerful and experienced player, Mrs. Ruzici. Mrs. Lloyd, three times champion here, is a crip of 25 and continues to be a formidable player. She is also a natural racket-handler with an enviable sure touch. What all this amounts to is that she has an audaciously attractive court presence and a more exciting talent than anyone else among the new generation of women players. She combines power and touch with an elegant versatility that makes her out as someone special. Her competitive qualities have yet to be fully explored.

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In the remaining two sets Mrs. Lloyd concentrated better, but her opponent was deeply, and worked herself into the ground. Mrs. Ruzici, the net tightening around her, became a little more playful as well as more confident. The tennis was still good but the glory had gone from it.

The other match served as a pleasant aperitif. Miss Fromholtz had the better balanced game and was eventually subdued by Miss Ruzici's big-hitting during, especially on the forehand. Miss Ruzici, who has been playing since she was 17, was usually the front runner. When serving at her best, she was in trouble. But her response was to serve an ace and win eight consecutive points. In the end, she won the championship. But that she was the better player was never in doubt. The outcome of that close set affected each player's confidence. The second set was nearly a marginal disparity.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-final
Mrs. Lloyd (FRA) beat Mrs. Ruzici (FRA) 6-3, 6-3.
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Rowing

Easy day for Lady Margaret crew

By a Special Correspondent

Lady Margaret was again troubled at the dawn of the second day of the Cambridge May regatta. They were down to 34 strokes, a little impression of the first day's performance. The crew, however, were not to be discouraged. They were down to 34 strokes, a little impression of the first day's performance. The crew, however, were not to be discouraged. They were down to 34 strokes, a little impression of the first day's performance. The crew, however, were not to be discouraged.

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A day when the haze failed to hide the elegance of Rose

By Alan Gibson

WORCESTER: Worcestershire, with eight second innings in hand, are 157 runs ahead of Gloucestershire.

It was a day not much to do with the haze. The haze hid the Malvern Hills. It hid the Malvern Hills. It hid the Malvern Hills. It hid the Malvern Hills. It hid the Malvern Hills. It hid the Malvern Hills. It hid the Malvern Hills. It hid the Malvern Hills. It hid the Malvern Hills. It hid the Malvern Hills.

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Balderson makes it a long day for Nottinghamshire

By Peter Marion

LEICESTER: Nottinghamshire, with seven second innings wickets in hand, lead Leicestershire by 172 runs.

A splendid innings by Balderson, who made 158 not out, took the Nottinghamshire batsmen to a comfortable lead. Balderson, who made 158 not out, took the Nottinghamshire batsmen to a comfortable lead. Balderson, who made 158 not out, took the Nottinghamshire batsmen to a comfortable lead.

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chance at slip when Balderson had made 28, and with his score at 41 Balderson on-drove Tunnah. Balderson, who made 158 not out, took the Nottinghamshire batsmen to a comfortable lead. Balderson, who made 158 not out, took the Nottinghamshire batsmen to a comfortable lead. Balderson, who made 158 not out, took the Nottinghamshire batsmen to a comfortable lead.

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Warwickshire revival led by Lloyd

Warwickshire's promising young left-handed batsman, Andy Lloyd, rescued his team with a fine 69 in the second innings at Edgbaston yesterday, and a century by Humphreys completed their revival.

Dorchester took command early in the first innings, when Warwickshire were 13 runs behind. Lloyd, who made 69, rescued his team with a fine 69 in the second innings at Edgbaston yesterday, and a century by Humphreys completed their revival.

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Wanted: a fresh impetus in the disarmament talks

The Labour Party special conference on Saturday rightly attached great importance to ways of securing lasting peace and progress in disarmament. The policy statement argued that following the steps taken by the last Labour Government in such fields as non-proliferation and the Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction talks, Britain must again take a lead in disarmament negotiations, and that the arms race must be halted and war hysteria dispelled. It calls on the British Government to enter immediately into East-West negotiations with a view to reaching new agreements that would ensure that Cruise missiles and Soviet SS 20s are both withdrawn.

It is possible that such a negotiation could succeed using the interval between the deployment of Cruise and Pershing 2 missiles. The Labour Party must, however, also recognise that it is essential for Britain to carry weight in those negotiations with the Soviet Union, and to convince our allies of our seriousness.

This means that Nato and Britain within the organization must be able to negotiate from a position of being ready to deploy Cruise missiles if the Soviets refuse to negotiate constructively over their already deployed SS 20s. The Soviet Union will respond if they see it to their advantage to make a deal. To make a deal is to have an effective bargaining lever. Leverage is as vital in disarmament negotiations as it is in wage negotiations.

The whole area of arms control and disarmament needs, after Afghanistan, a fresh impetus. The United States, Soviet Union and Western Europe are all now embarking on yet another twist to the already spiralling arms race. Afghanistan should not be the excuse for turning back either on Salt or on the sustained pursuit of realistic, détente, should rather be the stimulus to try to reach more substantial agreements, a genuine bargain in which both sides gain important objectives and in which both sides trade off gains by accepting restraints.

The invasion of Afghanistan despite repeated public and private United States warnings to the Soviet Union about the grave consequences for United States-Soviet relations is an ominous portent for the future. We need to ask why the United States warnings were ignored. Would the invasion have taken place if President Carter had been seen to be capable of delivering Congressional support for Salt II? After President Carter's Vienna meeting with President Brezhnev it was reasonable for the USSR to expect that ratification of Salt II would follow.



Dr David Owen, the former Foreign Secretary, on how Britain can negotiate from strength in calling a halt to the international arms race

If she judged the prospects of ratification as being non-existent, at least before a new president was installed in 1981, the Soviet Union could have calculated that she had nothing to lose in East-West terms that really mattered to her by going ahead with the invasion. It is hard to escape the logic of such a hard-headed calculation when we now witness the differences amongst the key Western countries about what limited price over Afghanistan the West should try to extract from the Soviet Union by way of retaliatory measures.

Salt II has a Joint Statement of Principles to apply to Salt III. This undertakes to deal with the Protocol to Salt II which commits the United States not to deploy ground and sea-launched cruise missiles of a range over 600km until the year 1983. Salt III is therefore committed to discussing the very weapons systems on which Western European countries, following the Nato decision over deployment, have a crucial interest.

I am very wary of accepting the concept of a Euro-strategic balance as distinct from the overall East-West global strategic balance. It was Chancellor Schmidt who first raised the so-called Euro-strategic balance as part of a theatre strategy. The distinction between strategic weapons and theatre weapons has therefore become increasingly blurred and makes for considerable confusion in discussions over the

so-called theatre balance or Euro-strategic balance.

There is now a strong case for direct European involvement in Salt III. The US administration would not have faced a fraction of the Congressional problems with Salt II if Britain and West Germany had been full partners in the actual negotiations. If West Germany declines involvement and if Britain's other European allies agree, Britain should advocate becoming a full negotiating partner in Salt III as we did over the comprehensive test ban negotiations. British military as well as political opinion is divided over Britain's future nuclear choices. The projected three per cent per year real terms increase in the defence budget until 1984 is clearly not tolerable at a time of exceptionally low economic growth. The purchase of US Trident missiles and the building of the large and expensive nuclear submarines exclusively to carry such missiles should therefore be ruled out on cost grounds alone. This is not to endorse unilateral nuclear disarmament. Britain should extend the life of the existing Polaris fleet until 1995 at least and be ready to keep other nuclear weapons depending on arms negotiations. A decision on whether to purchase submarine-launched cruise missiles is not needed until 1990 or later, since cruise missiles can be fired from the torpedo tubes of our conventional nuclear submarines. It is as foolish as the Labour Party to exclude the possibility of purchasing submarine-launched cruise missiles 10 to 15 years ahead as it is of the Conservative Government to commit precious conventional defence resources now on the super sophisticated Trident missile system. Penetrating any future missile defence system is essential for the United States but Britain has different strategic requirements. Nor will Trident need to have more Trident

missiles as Britain's contribution to the deterrent.

Britain will carry little credibility in asking other non-nuclear weapon states to take arms control more seriously if she is not even prepared to participate in negotiations herself because of the fear of including her own nuclear weapons. Britain cannot easily justify, only on grounds of national defence and national military requirements, her continuation of strategic nuclear weapons. Her possession or discontinuation of such weapons has a very high political content.

Ensuring West Germany stays non-nuclear and that France is not the only European nuclear weapon state are political not military objectives, as is ensuring that our public commitment to disarmament is to use our nuclear knowledge constructively in all arms control forums. A radical and positive role for a European Disarmament Conference could arise if scheduled for some years ahead, say 1982-3, and it could become the forum which would bring together and co-ordinate decisions taken in the framework of Salt, CTE, MBFR and Helsinki.

A 36-nation European conference would need careful prior preparation by a small group of countries. To avoid creating a new structure it might be worth taking Berlin as the focus. Quadripartite machinery between the Soviet Union, America, Britain and France as the four occupying powers already exists. Also in existence is the Bonn Group for co-ordinating views between France, Britain, West Germany and the United States. Not only do these meet at official level but also regularly at Foreign Minister level and from time to time coinciding with Economic Summits at Heads of Government level. At Gaudeloupe in 1979 the four Heads of Government were acknowledged to have discussed security issues. It is worth considering the growing of five—the Soviet Union, the United States, West Germany, France and Britain—would be an acceptable steering group to act as a link between the existing arms control forums which affect European security. In this way highly secret nuclear weapon systems might be discussed and the concept of nuclear free zones and some coherence and political leadership be given to the present disparate and disappointing arms control negotiations.

Based on an article by Dr David Owen in the May/June edition of the International Institute for Strategic Studies Journal Survival.

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Thirty-six years after D-Day, a tribute to a great general

This morning in Whitehall Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother will unveil the statue to Field-Marshal Montgomery on the anniversary of the June 6, 1944 landings in Normandy. The cost of the statue has been entirely met by his comrades and friends, more than 7,000 people subscribing. The statue is by Oscar Nemon, sculptor of the House of Commons and Guildhall memorials to Winston Churchill. The Field Marshal had given Mr Nemon several sittings 20 years ago. This tribute to the Field Marshal has been written by one of his comrades and friends.

Thirty six years ago I landed in Normandy, one of almost two million men involved in that undertaking. We had trained for the moment over many months and we knew our task would not be easy; but we were inspired by the general commanding the operation—a small, wiry man in a tank beret who personified the sheer professionalism which now characterized our largely territorial or conscript army.

Once before I had crossed the channel in uniform—in early 1940 as part of the British Expeditionary Force, only to be driven back into the sea some months later. This time the feeling was quite different. In 1940 I had not even known the name of the BEF commander; whereas I doubt if there was even a civilian, let alone a soldier, who did not know in June 1944 who was in charge of the land forces preparing to launch the long-awaited Second Front.

Nor was General Montgomery a mere figurehead: his influence permeated 21 Army Group from top to bottom. Indeed he had spoken to every fighting man before D-Day. The clarity of our orders, the policy of ensuring that every man in the battalion, even the cook, should know the "plan" and be part of it, all stemmed from Monty. As the late Sir Francis de Guindange wrote in his recent book, "Professionalism was at last in; brave amateurism was out."

We put our faith in the Army Group Commander because we knew he would not fail us: would not ask us to undertake this great enterprise unless he felt it would be successful. He had brought 8th Army from Alamein to Tunis; he had conquered Sicily; he had landed in Italy, relieved the threat to Salerno, and taken 8th Army to the River Sangro before being appointed to command the Allied assault landings on the coast of France.

Our Normandy bridgehead

Monty: the man we know would not fail us



General Montgomery with a Beachmaster after the D-Day landing in Normandy

was deep and powerful enough on the British front to withstand the combined weight of the German infantry and Panzer armies in northern France as he intended, and after weeks of bitter fighting in the hedgerows we surrounded the bulk of the German forces at Falaise. Thereafter we crossed the Seine in advance of the outline plan, liberated Belgium and part of Holland and fought our way into Germany. There were disappointments—as at Arnhem: surprises—as in the Ardennes; but under Field-Marshal Montgomery (as he became in September, 1944) we felt assured of victory.

As a veteran, I feel to this day intensely proud to have served under indubitably the greatest British Field Commander since the Iron Duke. Field-Marshal Lord Harding, who has chaired the committee organizing today's statue and ceremony, once observed to me how strongly he felt the similarity between Nelson and Montgomery: "You see, Monty had that same ability to infuse enthusiasm, the willingness to fight, as did Nelson—in his men, as in his Captains." The legacy which Montgomery left is as profound as that left by Nelson and Wellington, and it remains with us in

every activity and portance of our nation. It is a necessary to be professional, and to every soldier to about his task as part of the whole. If ever Britain "wanted" war in it will be the we of Field-Marshal that will stand to and inspiration to help, as Churchill, Parliament Square

Sir Denis

Geoffrey Smith

The difficult choice facing Mr Jenkins

Mr Roy Jenkins denied this week that there was any question of leaving the presidency of the European Commission before his term of office expires at the end of the year. But when he speaks to the Commons Parliamentary Press Gallery on Monday he is expected to indicate that on his return he will again take an active part in British politics. If so, what are his options? He cannot go back to the Labour Party after his Dimsdale Lecture last November. He had closed that door in his own mind before then, but that was the occasion when he made the extent of his disenchantment public. There can be no going back if he is to preserve respect.

Should he then pitch his standard and call for volunteers for a new centre party? That is what has been widely forecast but the term "centre party" has been used so loosely that it means different things to different people. There can be no question at this stage of a new political movement embracing the Liberals, right-wing rebels from the Labour Party and a sprinkling of left-wing Tories. Whatever the theoretical attractions of such a grouping it is simply not a practical proposition in the near future.

The only kind of new centre party that might be feasible would be a

social democratic breakaway from the Labour Party. Such a splinter group might hope to have electoral pact with the Liberals and an agreement to consult with them in Parliament afterwards. But would it look a credible political force?

The essence of the British political system is that it depends upon parties not personalities. A single personality, no matter how eminent, is not enough to make a party. Mr Jenkins would therefore be taking a foolhardy gamble if he were simply to stand in an early by-election as an independent Labour or social democratic candidate.

If he won he would gain no more than an individual seat in Parliament, and he would very likely suffer the humiliation of defeat. Nor would it be enough for him to go public with those people of like mind from outside Parliament with whom he has been in close consul-

tion—men like Mr Dick Taverne, Mr Colin Munn, Mr Michael Barnes, Mr David Marquand, Mr Anthony Lester and Lord Harris of Greenwich. None of them now sits in the House of Commons and collectively their names are not sufficiently widely known to the general public to convey the necessary impression of political weight.

The key question is whether Mr Jenkins could attract members of the present House of Commons, the most that he could hope for would be to win over Mrs Shirley Williams, Mr William Rodgers and up to ten others. The pivotal figure here is Mr Rodgers, partly because he is still an MP, partly because he is not, though she is expected to return to the House in the not too distant future—and partly because he has a reputation as a particularly shrewd tactician. If he were to move, probably another half dozen would go with him. Without him,

Mr Jenkins would be lucky to pick up the odd straggler. There is now less chance of Mr Rodgers and the others moving than there was when he spoke openly in a speech at Aberllynnydd last November of Labour having only about a year in which to sort itself out. Now there seems a better prospect that the right-wing in the constitutional parties within the party in any case, serious and practical politicians do not break away from a major party on a basis of theoretical calculation. They do so only when something happens that makes them feel it is impossible to stay. It is not easy in this instance to see precisely what that something could be. A general disaffection, yes. But what would provide the final push?

It could be unilateral disarmament if that becomes a major issue again, as it may well to judge from last Saturday's special party conference. But one vote for un-

ilateralism at an annual conference would not be enough to drive the liberal democrats out of the party. They would, like their mentor Hugh Gaiskell, fight and fight again within the Labour ranks for at least another year.

Good-humoured

So the odds are against a break-away of any significance from the Parliamentary Labour Party. If it does not occur, any attempt by Mr Jenkins to set up a new group would, I believe, be doomed to failure. It would not look credible to the electorate. No less important, it would not look credible to the Liberals.

When the Liberal council discussed the question of a centre party at Worcester three weeks ago

delegates engendered such an atmosphere of good-humoured fusion as to make it hard for observers to be sure precisely what they meant. I drew a number of conclusions from watching this remarkable demonstration of party democracy in action.

There is a strong gut feeling within the party against any electoral pact. The leadership could none the less secure the acquiescence of the conference to a deal with outside forces that was actually on offer, if it seemed to hold out the prospect of a political breakthrough. But such an exercise in persuasion would set up strong tensions within the party, and it would not be easy to get an agreement implemented at local level—where the Liberal candidate would be required to stand down in particular seats in favour of a social democrat.

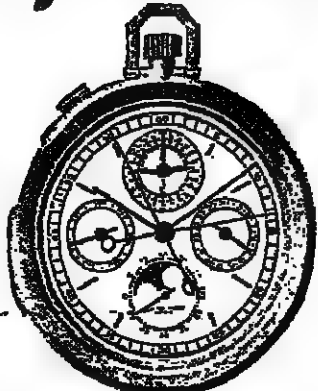
The agreement would be easier to

implement, and the far well worthwhile, if it done with a substantial force. But if the prospect seemed to amount to more than Mr Jenkins and circle, the Liberal have difficulty in del side of the bargain an up-moore trouble than in the attempt. Yet with total pact with the Lil social democratic pro have little chance of ground.

Does M Jenkins have option? He could join A group that would no as a separate party co less bring a considerable strength to an exist Liberal are in busines party, and strength would have a greater British politics than m successful effort to f party.

Opinion about such sharply-divided among friends. He himself m gard it with misgiving. Liberal activists in would be unenthusiast who are seriously in p tical power cannot affi fastidious.

"Widely acclaimed," he conceded, "but scarcely well known."



He formed the words reluctantly, as though afraid "La Grande Complication" might lose some of its aura through the mere suggestion of being famous.

Whilst, as I pointed out, awareness of this extraordinary masterpiece of the watchmaker's art cannot dull its brilliance, its price of £40,000 means that few people will ever know the pleasure of owning one.

Everyone else, I reflected, must be content in the knowledge that such craftsmanship still exists today.

As if reassured, he handed the slender chronograph back to me, his fingers lingering for a moment on the finely edged gold case.

Audemars Piguet

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MOSCOW OLYMPICS DIARY

Watch your footwork on the escalator

It is going to be a far smaller party than the hosts had originally planned but Olympic officials, hotel administrators, tourists and especially the KGB are probably all secretly relieved. The Mayor of Moscow has just revealed that the Soviet capital is now expecting only 100,000 foreign visitors for the Olympics—only a third of the pre-boycott estimate.

Still, as the Mayor blandly remarked at a recent press conference, the small number will probably get better service. But the Russians are leaving nothing to chance. All Moscow is now frantically busy getting things ready for what will still be the biggest influx of foreigners since the Second World War invasion.

June has been declared a month of shock work when finishing touches are put on the sports complexes, the hotels are spruced up, the taxi drivers sworn up their laboriously learnt smatterings of English, French and German, the last few coats of paint are sloshed over any structure still unpainted and as many potholes as possible are filled in to give the summer visitors a smoother ride.

Already the city's master plan to cope with the crowds has begun to swing into action. The capital is now closed to all non-Muscovites, who will have to

wait until after the Games before swooping in for any remaining goodies which are rumoured to be about to appear in the shop windows—and perhaps also on the counters.

Notices have gone up on the city boundaries telling foreign drivers to keep out (though many seem to be taking little notice). Schools have broken up and children have been sent in endless bus convoys to peaceful summer camps far from the noise and crowds. The universities have finished a month earlier than usual and 85,000 students are now learning their new trade. Some 17,000 will act as cooks, 22,000 as waiters and hotel staff, 9,000 as guides, 2,000 as assistants at the sports complexes and others generally making themselves useful.

Specialities

With fewer tourists it will probably be easier to get a bite to eat. The Olympic menu officially boasts 400 dishes—mushroom soup, apples boiled in honey and Russian pancakes are among the specialities that Tass considered most delicious—the athletes themselves will have another 100 to choose from, including a special

Olympic chocolate with high tonic qualities. But though Pepsi stands have begun to sprout all over town, Coca-Cola, which was to have been the official Olympic drink, will not, after all, be able to delight and refresh because of the American boycott.

It is going to be a nightmare trying to move around in Moscow during the Games. Some 170 streets and thoroughfares have been designated special Olympic routes and ordinary cars will be banned unless they have special Olympic stickers (I can already see a potential for a thriving black market).

Athletes in their tower blocks in the Olympic village will have 1,000 buses to ferry them to their venues. And the City of Moscow is to borrow 6,200 new buses from other towns to help it move the crowds. The other towns will have to manage as best they can.

Signs in Latin characters will be going up on the Metro for foreigners where they are (a tip for those venturing underground for the first time: the escalators already move very fast and are due to speed up by 25 per cent, so watch your step getting on. And when the train arrives at a station, the driver also announces the name of the next station. It's worth getting

ready a station in advance so that you can start pushing your way to the door).

It has been raining a lot here recently and everything is green and fertile. All the flowers planted in every prominent patch of land a few weeks ago are blooming and the city centre looks rather splendid in its new decor and unaccustomed tidiness. Visitors probably will not get out to see the suburbs, which is just as well.

The "cleaning" has removed a number of eyesores, such as drunks who have been dispatched a long way away in dry out. And most of the prominent dissidents are locked up out of harm's way. Even those who generally kept a fairly low profile have thought it prudent to take extended summer holidays over the Olympic period in case the KGB was thinking of making other arrangements for them.

The best ballet dancers and musicians are rehearsing for the cultural feast that is to be provided during the Games and the Olympic muses have inspired Soviet artists with some very profitable themes: one lucky composer has had his creation accepted as the official Olympic anthem; a poet and translator has compiled an anthology of Olympic poetry and Olympic songs, ditties and

slogans are being published by the score.

Actually, the slogans have been toned down a lot by the boycott and the political furor and the Russians, now enthusiastic champions of the separation of sport and politics, are being careful not to make obvious party political capital out of the Games.

Striving

True, the 15 officially approved slogans do include some pithy quotations from the speeches of President Brezhnev—"the USSR has supported and will support the modern Olympic movement" and "The Olympic Games reflect the invincible striving of mankind towards peace and progress." But the 13 others seem suitably banal and harmless: "Faster, higher, stronger"; "Oh sport, you are peace"; "The Olympics—in the name of peace and in the glory of sport."

The Russians will contest every Olympic event this year for the first time and will doubtless do very well. The current Soviet squad of more than 500 will make an impressive sight at the opening ceremony in their newly designed Olympic uniforms.

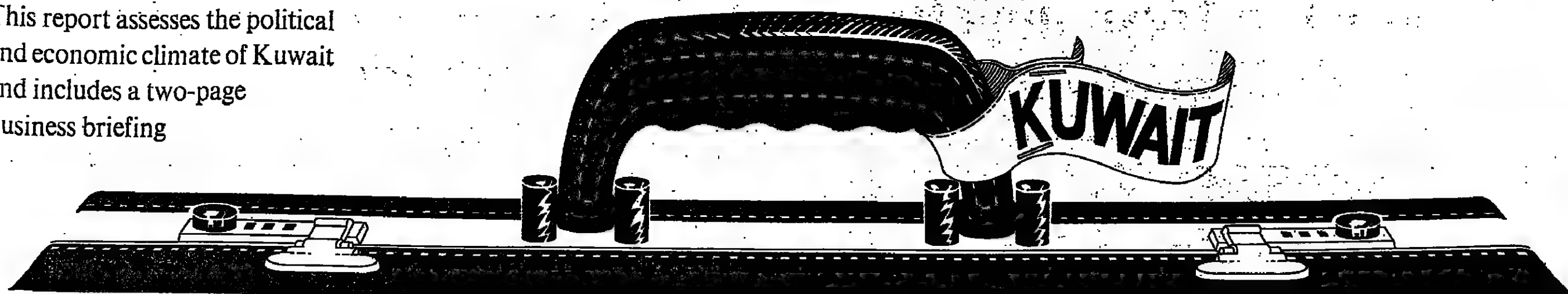
Nobody here sees how the British fare. They will not official help from which has been sulk at their press have an earnest young Russian to their interests. Shurina, director of the School of Kuchly, Ireland's attaché, when Brit is, attaché he off after our athletes.

No-one here sees many teams and finally take part. cials keep suggest door is still open change their mind case there may many teams as Montreal.

There is one gro be glad to see the musicians with deputes to play teams as and m Tass announced so that anthems wou live and not pred orchestra was so every one, and a level this meant go a couple of anth for two months. they will now d them altogether.

Micha

This report assesses the political and economic climate of Kuwait and includes a two-page business briefing



The 'smart operators' of The Gulf

With characteristic finesse the Kuwaitis have succeeded in establishing themselves as respected advisers to the Arab world. For a nation which has progressed from a backwater to a leading power in less than 25 years it is an astonishing achievement. But Kuwaitis delight in describing themselves as "smart operators" of the Gulf and they see it as strange in having so many of them. They have been "advised" by the world and the Arab world and have become adept at keeping their political balance and helping others to keep theirs. But Kuwait is not about its own difficulties addition to those which it shares with the Arab world generally. Kuwait has achieved a lot of its present success through the careful direction of Sheikh Jaber, the ruler. He has been the ruler more than two years, and has effectively in power more than a decade since the death of his predecessor, Sheikh Abdullah. A major figure in the development of Kuwait's external relations, however, has been Sheikh Saad al-Sabah, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Through Sheikh Saad, Kuwait has pursued the orthodox Arab policy of united enmity towards Israel and the orthodox Arab policy of resisting the presence there of either of the two super powers. It is also a result of Sheikh Saad's initiatives that Kuwait has become the, admittedly self-appointed, adviser to the emergent Gulf states and more recently to the rest of the Arab world.

It has been in pursuit of the overall aim of achieving Gulf and Arab unity that Sheikh Saad visited Kuwait's Gulf neighbours last year and returned last month from state visits to Iraq, Jordan and Syria. While the media gratefully welcomed the Prime Minister on his return from that tour it was understandable that the most enthusiastic reception was reserved for reports of his talks with Iraq's President Saddam Hussein. Iraq, of course, has represented special difficulties to Kuwait in the past and, in fact, has still not officially relinquished claims on the Kuwait border after attempting to assert them by force in 1960.

The meeting between the two heads of state did not settle the border issue but it did at least produce an agreement for the establishment of a joint committee to deal with the matter. Further evidence of renewed cordiality between Kuwait and Iraq was the announcement at the same time of talks to be held to set up joint industrial projects and agricultural

schemes as well as the establishment of rail and water links.

Shaikh Saad's recent talks in Baghdad, Amman and Damascus, however, can be seen in the wider context of the forthcoming Arab summit meeting to be held in Jordan as well as a move to strengthen—to use an expression of a local newspaper—the Arab "Eastern Front" in the confrontation with Israel.

For establishing an accord with Iraq, Sheikh Saad was given a hero's welcome home by the Kuwait press and there is no doubt that this is seen as being far more important than anything that has happened so far in Iraq. It is true that there is a significant minority of Shia Muslims in Kuwait and many of them, it seems reasonable to assume, will have close relations in Iraq. But there is no evidence in Kuwait of any wish to emulate the Ayatollah's revolution and it is probably safe to assume that money and other local manifestations of affluence have been enough to suppress such extremist fervour as might have existed.

One form of Arab radicalism that is occasionally spoken of in Kuwait, and not entirely in jest, is the possibility of readopting the Arabic pumeral system instead of the Persian-Indian that is at present in use. It would be a reform that Westerners would welcome and one that would probably have a good chance of being accepted without incident.

Western influence in Kuwait, despite Britain's early, and indeed continuing part in joint projects in both countries and elsewhere, covering petrochemicals, refining and exploration. Among such ventures planned are maritime oil exploration in the South China Sea and the building of a refinery in France.

All this, however, merely confirms the feeling, voiced locally, that the French presence in Kuwait will be much more in evidence in the future than it is at present. Already the Kuwait legal system is based on that of the French, a fact which puzzles those who remember Britain's presence in Kuwait for nearly 200 years until the declaration of independence in 1961. It is clearly no accident that the French have recently participated in the construction of a new luxury hotel, the Meridien, in Kuwait City centre and it seems reasonable to assume that it has not been built for the exclusive use of American, German and Japanese businessmen.

But, while Kuwait can afford to keep any Western association at arm's length, there is also evidence of a willingness to enter mutually profitable ventures when opportunities arise. One notable example can be seen in the benefits that France is to receive from the visit of President Giscard d'Estaing earlier this year. This has led directly to an agreement for the direct purchase of crude oil from the Kuwait National Oil Company by the French CFP and Elf Aquitaine companies, both of which are state-owned, thus eliminating the previous practice of using British and American firms as middlemen.

The agreement also pro-

vides for the French and Kuwaiti companies to take the list of foreign assets owned by the major Gulf oil producers.

It seems surprising that an economy with that kind of financial backing could experience a slump or even a slight recession. But modern international economics has lessons for even the wealthiest and, although Kuwait carefully avoided the uncontrolled growth of many of its Gulf neighbours in the mid-1970s, it has deliberately imposed restraints on government spending over the past three years or so. The result has been to keep inflation down to an annual single figure though inflationary pressures are expected to keep it near 10 per cent in the current financial year.

The Kuwaiti policy of diversifying its industry so that there is less dependence on oil is being pursued vigorously even although in the light of the recent cut-back to 1,500,000 barrels a day, the oil reserves are expected to last for well over a hundred years. In this context Mr. Ali al-Moussa, assistant under-secretary of the Ministry of Planning, spoke recently of the need to be competitive on an international scale and also of possible links with the European Community. "Some Arab countries are trying to work with the EEC in one way or another," said Mr. al-Moussa. "Cooperation is inevitable and although there might be some delays we must not wait for all Arab countries

Sitting on 100 years of oil

More than any other Arab state, Kuwait can be said to sit on a sea of oil. Its reserves of 81,000 million barrels are second in the Middle East, only to Saudi Arabia's. At the present rate of production of 1,500,000 barrels a day they will last for 100 years.

The Sheikh of Kuwait had granted the Kuwait Oil Company, owned jointly by British Petroleum and Gulf Oil, an exclusive concession to explore and produce in Kuwait and its territorial waters for a distance of six nautical miles offshore. Four years later, the two multinationals discovered the Burgan field.

Production began after the Second World War and capacity, throughout the country was gradually raised until in 1972 a ceiling of 2,900,000 barrels a day was imposed.

In Kuwait the divergent interests of the oil multinationals and the country in which they operated could not be more marked. At a production rate of three million barrels a day, the oil would have been exhausted within 45 years.

Kuwait's wealth depended on the oil. The companies, on the other hand, had other sources of crude. Once Kuwait's oil was exhausted it would have only the income generated from past sales and invested, largely in Western industrialised nations, to keep its revenues up.

As a result, Kuwait has emerged as a major force in Opec. Its oil minister, Sheikh Ali Khalifa al-Sabah, has

continued on next page

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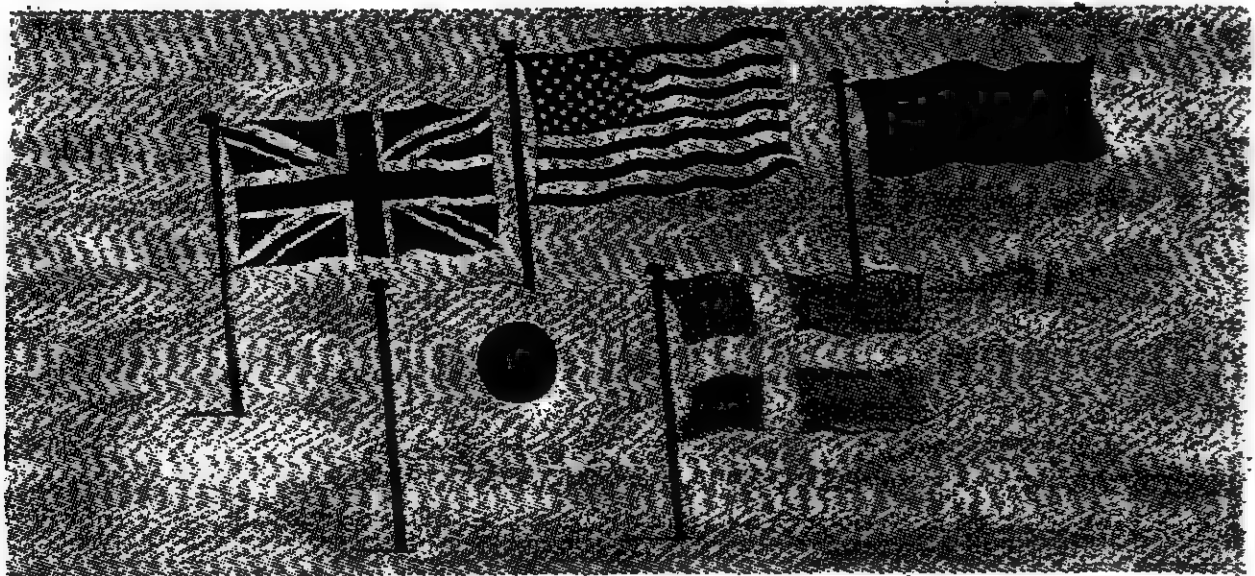
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KUWAIT

Plan to coordinate petroleum activities

Within the past 12 months Kuwait has quietly put together a massive plan to coordinate its oil production and all related activities. On January 27 the plan assumed its final shape when a new state-owned controlling company, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), was established under Amiri Decree No 6, 1980, to take charge of the companies responsible for oil production, refining, planning, shipping, marketing and the production of liquefied gas and petrochemicals.

The KPC brings together the two major oil companies, Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) and Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC), and also the Petrochemical Industries Company (PIC) and is headed by Shaikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah, the O.P. Minister. It is within this framework that Kuwait's petrochemical industry will be coordinated and the most significant development towards this end took place in February last year when the huge liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) plant at Mina Al Ahmadi was opened.

The LPG plant, officially referred to as the Gas Project, cost 300m. Kuwaiti dinars (about £490m) to build and is reported to be the biggest of its kind in the world. It is certainly bigger than Kuwait actually needs at present. The Al Ahmadi plant is designed to process the associated gas

from oil production of three million barrels a day (b/d) but with Kuwait's current oil production ceiling fixed as recently as April 1 at 1,500,000 b/d, it rather seems that it is about twice as big as the country requires. The official reply to such suggestions, however, is that the Al Ahmadi plant offers ample scope for growth.

"It will comfortably meet the nation's current requirements," a KOC executive said, "as well as giving scope for increased production should Kuwait decide that its interests are best served by an expansion of oil extraction in the future." While the present policy appears to be one of postponing the expansion of the Gas Project, it is to be noticed even if it is only to work for the time being, at half capacity.

The first feasibility study was undertaken in 1972 in an attempt to avoid the waste of gas by flaring off unusable quantities, a process which had lit up Kuwait's night sky in the desert ever since the first oil exports in 1946.

In the years after the initiation of the feasibility study enough progress was achieved in using the gas of which, by the mid-1970s, more than 60 per cent was going to local industrial and domestic use or was being reinjected into oilfields to enhance crude recovery methods. Even so, it was considered that the 40 per

cent that was still being flared was far too important to be wasted and that it should be put to better use. The Gas Project, therefore, was designed to attract propane, butane and natural gasolene, the feedstock for petrochemicals from all the gas associated with crude oil production in Kuwait.

In providing the essential feedstock, the LPG plant at Mina Al Ahmadi—described by the official as "the heart of the Gas Project"—is crucial to the development and coordination of Kuwait's petrochemical industry. This is the function of the Petrochemical Industries Company (PIC), now a major and virtually independent member of the KPC group.

Mr. Amir Sebbahani, PIC's deputy managing director for planning and development affairs, speaks enthusiastically about the possibilities of Kuwait's unique petrochemical capacity and the profits it is capable of generating. "It is important to remember that the process in petrochemical production adds considerable value to the product."

"When you refine crude oil you double its value but with some initial petrochemical processes, you can increase the value by 10 times. With other processes further downstream one must think in terms of adding as much as 100 times the original value."

PIC plants are already

producing such basic petrochemicals as fertilisers, aromatics, plastics, insecticides, solvents and agro-chemicals in large quantities.

But we shall not be going in for pharmaceutical products for the moment," Mr. Sebbahani said. "This is a highly specialised and sometimes speculative field and we are certainly not ready for it yet."

PIC has two manufacturing divisions: one for fertilisers, and the other for salt and chlorine. This fertilizer division produces ammonia, urea, sulphuric acid and ammonium sulphate. There are three ammonia plants with a 380,000 tonne-per-year capacity, three urea plants with a capacity of 750,000 tonnes a year, one ammonium sulphate plant (165,000 tonnes a year) and one concentrated sulphuric acid plant (132,000 tonnes a year).

The PIC fertilizer division exports most of its products to Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, India, Vietnam, Pakistan and Sudan. The salt and chlorine division of PIC was acquired from the Ministry of Electricity and Water whose plants were originally intended to meet local demand only. The company will give first priority to local needs, as some of the products manufactured are essential for power generation, but surplus products are sold.

As the quantities produced by the salt and chlorine division are

which males outnumber females by 776,125 to 579,702.

Tight laws control economy

payments on the final instalment for contracts until firms present a discharge certificate issued by the income tax control department. This measure, which has been expected by the public and private sectors, Mr. Saqr said: "We notice that the Government is participating in private sector industrial ventures which cannot be considered important or strategic. In many cases priority is simply a matter of which industry applies for a licence first."

In reply, Mr. Ali al-Moussa, the Planning Ministry's spokesman, said that deciding priorities purely on the basis of economic feasibility would be a mistake. (Ironically this is the basis of Kuwaiti investment in other Third World countries.) Mr. Moussa thought protection should be given by the Government to certain industries even if the consumer had to pay more for the product. This applied where the benefits of an industry did not immediately show up in cost analysis.

A debate of this sort suggests that Kuwaitis are alive to the issues. With only 2 per cent of the native workforce employed in industry, their attitudes will inevitably have a rentier character. The latest official census claims that Kuwaitis make up 41.5 per cent of the population of 1,355,827, in

which males outnumber females by 776,125 to 579,702. It is difficult to become a Kuwaiti. To be entitled to a vote it is necessary to prove that a family was resident before 1920, and to other civil rights, before the mid-1940s. A few people are naturalized every year but this is by grace and favour of the ruling family.

Although there is a general right to participate in commerce, citizens alone can own land or trade in shares. The system has created waste, with little incentive for inhabitants to take productive jobs. The Amir Shaikh Jaber said in December that more than 65,000 of the nationals and expatriates working for the Government were unnecessary and were only in employment for humanitarian or social reasons. In such conditions there has inevitably been a high rate of illegal immigration, with aliens swarming to fill jobs.

With the uncertainties following the Iranian revolution and discontent among Shia in November, culminating in demonstrations outside the United States embassy, the authorities began a purge of illegal immigrants. Reports that more than 18,000 have been repatriated are almost certainly exaggerated.

John Middle East

Sitting on 100 years of oil

continued from previous page

of oil in real terms far below the 1974 high.

A glut of supplies on the market had cut Kuwait's sales and in early 1977 a low level of 1,400,000 barrels a day was reached. Price rises over the past 18 months have made not much more than that figure an acceptable output, but at the time, this was far from the case.

Through 1979 both price cuts and extended credit was offered, and production rose from the depressed 1977 level. The fact was, nevertheless, that Kuwait was producing more crude than it wished to for the longer term.

The Iranian revolution came to the rescue of Kuwait, as it did for Opec generally. It is easy now to forget that throughout most of 1978 oil industry observers had thought it unlikely that Opec would introduce a price rise, and make it stick.

At the December meeting in Abu Dhabi, a rise, which would have meant an increase of 14.5 per cent by the end of 1979, was imposed. It was much more than most commentators had expected, and was entirely due to the neutralization of Saudi Arabia's extra capacity by the cutbacks in Iran.

For Kuwait, the return of the power to the seller could not have come at a better time. Sheikh Ali Khalifa had been saying to anyone who was prepared to listen that Opec should recover the losses caused by dollar erosion and inflation. Opec seized the chance with both hands, and Kuwait was able finally to wrest all power from the multinationals, and reduce its production to the level it wanted.

The five-year deals signed with Gulf and BP when full control was taken of the Kuwait Oil Company, ran out at the end of March

1980. BP took 450,000 barrels a day and Gulf 500,000 barrels a day with both companies having the option to lift 10 per cent more. Shell, meanwhile, signed an agreement to lift 350,000 barrels a day, with an option to raise or lower its take by 45,000 barrels a day on October 1, 1978.

The ending of the two largest contracts, therefore, came at the same time as Kuwait intended to cut back its production to 1,500,000 barrels a day.

Initially, Kuwait demanded to be offered interests either in the multinationals' downstream refinery, or in exploration outside the Middle East. The companies were far from happy with this. Then, seeing Iran still managing to sell some of its crude, despite the far higher prices it was demanding than other Opec members, Kuwait offered contracts with half at government selling price of \$27.50, and half at a premium of \$5.50. Shell was called in for renegotiation, even though its contract did not expire until six months later.

As a result Shell and BP agreed to lift 75,000 barrels a day at the basic price, with BP taking a further 75,000 at premium, and Shell 100,000. Gulf elected to take only the 75,000 at the basic price.

With Japan and other nations short of crude scrambling for supplies, Kuwait had had no difficulty in selling the remainder of its oil. The near auction that has developed for crude has allowed for less dependence on the multinationals. Kuwait now has a more diversified market to aim at, and so more control over prices and production.

Nicholas Hirst
Energy Correspondent

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Nationals benefit from world's most generous welfare system

At six in the morning the Kuwaiti capital, Kuwait City, is still asleep. The streets are empty except for the occasional car. The city is a quiet place, with the sound of the sea in the background. The sun is just rising, and the air is still and cool. The city is a beautiful place, with its white buildings and its green parks. The people are happy and content. They are enjoying the best of the world's most generous welfare system.

A benevolent Government, even though it still carefully controls its extraordinary wealth, provides Kuwaiti citizens with the most generous welfare system in the world which effectively removes any problems about the provision of housing, education or health care. One estimate which appears to have been accepted by the Kuwaiti authorities has suggested that in a normal life-span the individual Kuwaiti can expect to receive government benefits totalling about \$125,000.

One of the problems facing the Kuwaiti authorities, however, is that the country's own nationals comprise fewer than half the population. The latest census published a few weeks ago shows that the Kuwaiti population is 360,000 (34 per cent) in five years. The increase has been due largely to the continued influx of foreigners, who make up the essential workforce: and there are now estimated to be some 350,000 Palestinians and about 150,000 Egyptians as well as other Arabs and large numbers of Indians, Pakistanis and Koreans working in the country. There is also an unexpected thriving Roman Catholic community.

While the native Kuwaitis are the only ones enjoying first-class citizenship, it is generally recognised that it is becoming important to offer some kind of status to those non-Kuwaiti Arabs who have lived and worked in the country for some time. At present even the Palestinians, whose cause the Kuwaiti Government strongly supports so long as it is isolated as an Israeli problem, are no more than



The striking architecture of Kuwait's parliament building.

second-class citizens.

Occasionally exceptions have been made when the authorities have conferred full Kuwaiti citizenship on a Palestinian. One instance of this which received popular acclaim was the granting of Kuwaiti status to the national football team's Palestinian goalkeeper, Ahmad.

That kind of honorary citizenship, however, is likely to remain exceptional. A prominent Kuwaiti newspaper editor puts forward the case for redressing the imbalance between natives and others by granting to long-serving Arab expatriates citizenship of a certain category to be created for the purpose.

If it is difficult to come to the status of first-class citizen, it is apparently easy

enough to lose: the local newspapers from time to time carry reports of unfortunate who, for reasons which remain obscure or at least unreported, have lost their coveted Kuwaiti citizenship.

But it is characteristic of Kuwaiti life that discrimination and the identification of different classes of citizenship appear to be accepted without, on the surface at least, any organised protest. More than a fifth of Kuwaiti citizens, for instance, are Shi'ite Muslims, many of them with Iranian origins, and they have traditionally been excluded from positions of responsibility or influence. So far, the Shi'ites have not formed a unified group though many openly supported the Ayatollah Khomeini on his assumption of control in Iran.

The Kuwaiti authorities, for their part, though careful

to acknowledge the mood of Muslim radicalism in the region, have not shown any signs of unease at the presence of such a large enclave of potential opposition; but they would undoubtedly repress with considerable severity any attempt to interfere with the state's security.

It is recognised by many Kuwaitis, members of the Government, that political agitation in the future may come from students now reading for degrees at universities abroad. The latest Ministry of Education figures show that there were last year 2,925 Kuwaiti students at foreign universities. Of these, 268 were in Britain, 1,367 in the United States, 51 in France and 21 in the Soviet Union. Most of the others were at universities in Arab countries.

The proposed revival of the National Assembly will at least provide a means of

public debate that does not at present exist. But the fact is that few Kuwaitis seem to deplore the decision in 1976 to suspend the former assembly. It appears to have become a disruptive element which delayed legislation and had become merely the battleground for disputing factions, some religious and others—the Khairis—politically radical.

A special committee is now examining the question of reviving the assembly and it is expected to report to the Emir, Sheikh Jaber, in August. Informed observers expect the new assembly to become operative by the spring of next year and that it will take the form of a consultative council, combining government-commissioned and elected members.

One of the questions being examined by the com-

mittee is whether the new assembly should have only 50 members, like the previous assembly, elected from 10 constituencies. It can be assumed, however, that it will not recommend that the assembly be modelled on the Western style of parliamentary democracy.

The Kuwaiti authorities have developed a system that is both benign and paternalistic and it clearly satisfies the average Kuwaiti non-voter as he glides sedately down Arabian Gulf Street in his Cadillac. But to prevent the younger generation getting too soft in its easy-going, affluent lifestyle the Government has recently introduced compulsory national service.

"Ochaydes", a government official, says, "no young rich merchants' sons would do anything all day but sit around playing the stock market."

Fund prefers projects to programmes

The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development is something of a showpiece. It is the oldest and richest of the Arab aid funds, having been established in 1962 before oil wealth changed the face of the Gulf. Yet it represents only one aspect of Kuwait's development aid, though possibly one which will continue to grow.

The fund's recently published figures for the fiscal year ended June 1979 show that in 1978-79 there were 25 new loans valued at a total of KD57.5m (\$212.9m) which was nearly double the loans extended during 1977-78. This brings the cumulative value of the 142 loans made by the fund since it started to more than \$2,000m expressed in commitments to 48 different countries. Interest-free, as befits a development agency, were on 50ft terms extending from 0.5 per cent to 4.5 per cent including service charges with final maturities varying between 15 and 39 years.

The fund, as its title suggests, is still oriented primarily towards the Arab world. The latest figures show that the bulk of 1978-79 commitments went to Arab countries at \$221.2m, with Asian countries second at \$98.6m and African countries third at \$41.5m. For the first time a loan was made to a country in the Pacific with Papua New Guinea getting a \$3.6m loan for port development.

One change in direction has been to seek co-financing with other agencies. Eighteen out of the 25 loans made in 1978-79 were with other Arab funds, regional or international development agencies. There were three assistance grants for technical evaluation of projects made to Guinea, Rwanda and the Maldives each of \$1.1m.

The breakdown of 1978-79 loans shows that by sector power generation took 30 per cent of the money, industry 25 per cent and agriculture 16 per cent. Loans to Asian countries were almost entirely concentrated in Africa the power whereas in Africa the transport sector made for more than half.

The fund's work in Arab countries covered agricultural complexes (23 per cent) and industry (42 per cent). There were KD10m committed to roelectric dam in Guinea, the Jordan potash project, development of the Senegal

This represents about 8.2 per cent of the total cost and covers 11.3 per cent of the foreign exchange component. Among the cofinanciers are the World Bank, the Arab Fund for Economic Development, the Islamic Development Bank, the Opec Special Fund and the Amman-based Arab Mining Company.

Jordan potash is described by the fund's director general, Mr Abdel Latif al-Hamad, a Kuwaiti economist, as an example of a venture likely to make good returns with estimated export earnings of KD31.4m a year.

The fund has always had a preference for project lending even though Mr al-Hamad, a member of the Brundage commission which recommended an increase in programme lending. The Kuwaiti view is that programme lending calls for greater supervision and trust which with its small corpus of top professionals, it is in no position to exercise.

There is some evidence that Kuwait has come under some pressure from the United States Administration to increase its direct investments in third countries. A Treasury Department mission which visited in the autumn expressed the view strongly to the Government that it would like to see more Kuwaiti money going into countries such as Korea where indeed Kuwait already has some interests.

Indeed there is a lot of evidence that the Kuwaitis have taken this advice, particularly in the Far East. The Malaysia-Kuwait Investment Company was formally set up in Kuala Lumpur on May 13 with a capital of \$113m, bringing in the Malaysian state-owned oil corporation, the Kuala Lumpur Real Estate Investment Consortium and the Kuwait Institute for Social Security as shareholders. In Korea the Kuwaitis have been negotiating to take a stake in the Ulsan oil refinery south of Seoul which refines Kuwaiti crude oil.

In the current financial year the Kuwait fund is actively engaged on project finance for the Guebs iron ore making complex in Mauritania. It is considering finance for a 600MW hydroelectric dam in Guinea, the development of the Senegal

diver basin and for a 550 MW power project in Thailand as well as smaller projects in Asia and Africa. The Kuwait fund has an improving record for disbursements which are often cited as a "falling" of the Arab funds. The problem is compounded by the fact that they are often dealing with uncomplex bureaucracy in recipient countries. But in 1978-79 disbursements were equal to 51 per cent of commitments which shows a reasonable record.

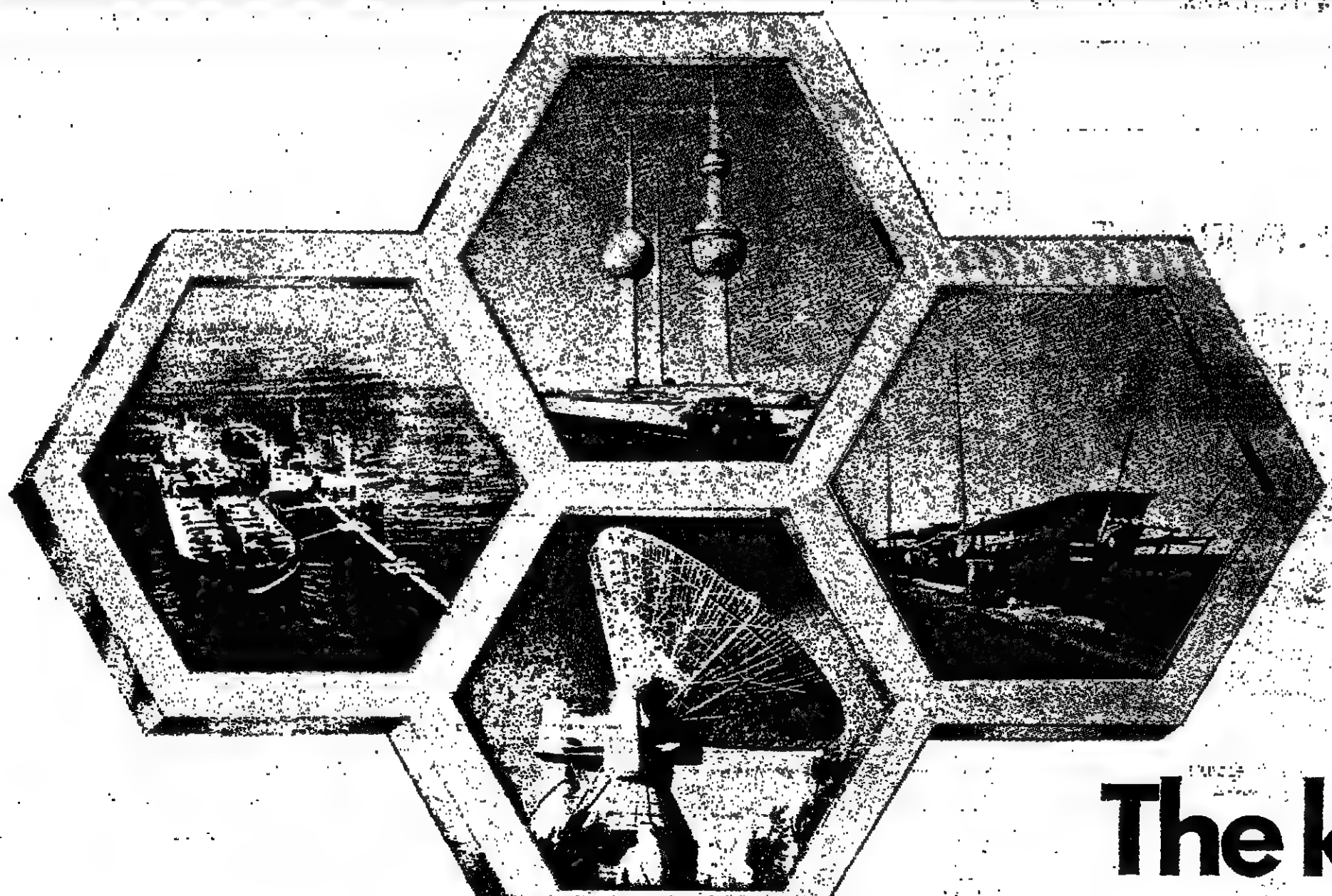
The Kuwait fund says that there are no immediate plans to raise capital but commitments will be sustained at between \$357m and \$400m a year. The fund's reputation for neutrality and independence of government is to some extent belied by the overtly political line that it has taken towards Egypt since the Camp David accords with Israel. Although the fund is continuing disbursements on existing projects there have been no new approvals since Camp David. Mr al-Hamad has given two reasons for this move: Egypt's failure to consult other Arab governments before Camp David and the fact that too much emphasis has been given to Egypt in the past.

As a proportion of its gross national product Kuwait is giving away in aid about 7.5 per cent. The figure is often challenged since the low population base of 1,300,000 tends to turn any statistic into a superlative particularly where calculations of per capita income are involved.

However, since independence Kuwait has handed out about \$10,000m in aid. Most of it goes through the Ministry of Finance which does not produce full figures, leaving Kuwait's exact contributions to the Arab front-line states confronting Israel something of a mystery.

If anything the signs are that Kuwait wants to do more through its funds. In Washington some eyebrows were raised when the Arab oil producers, including Kuwait, failed to exercise their options fully for a replenishment of the International Development Association, the soft loans affiliate of the World Bank.

J.W.



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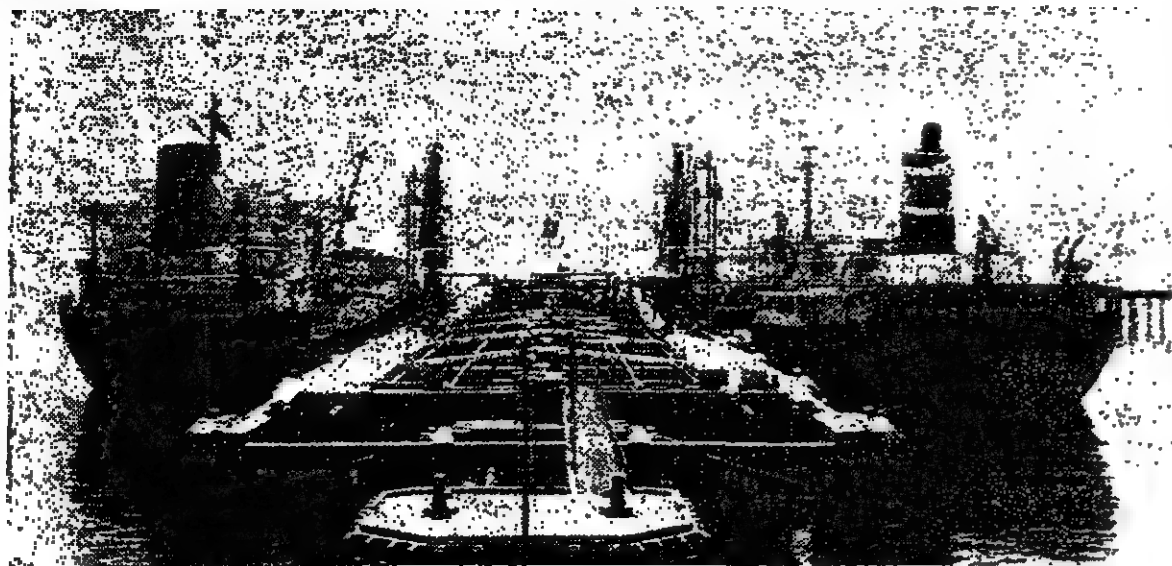
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But KPC does far more than sell the output of one of the World's Major Oil Producing Countries. The development of the Oil Industry generally, and the need for a National Energy Sector, made it essential that one body assumed responsibility for this area of fundamental importance to the Kuwaiti economy and its populace.



For this very purpose KPC was created. KPC orchestrates the efforts of its Integral companies, Kuwait Oil Company in Crude Oil exploration and Production, Kuwait National Petroleum Company in Refining, Kuwait Oil Tankers in Transportation, and the Petrochemical Industries Company. KPC thus safeguards Kuwait's interests whilst ensuring the continuation to customers of the well known stability and quality of supply of oil products in line with marketing conditions.

To further these objectives KPC maintains liaison offices in some of the world's key cities such as New York, London and Tokyo despite the fact that the city of Kuwait itself has increasingly become a prominent business centre which attracts industrialists and businessmen from all over the world.

For the traveller

How to get there

Kuwait's international airport is about 10 miles from the city centre; it is linked to London by direct flights operated by British Airways, Kuwait Airlines, Pakistan International Airlines and Air India. Connecting flights to Bahrain and other parts of the Gulf and Middle East are available.

A good road connects Kuwait with Basra, Iraq; the journey can be made in about three hours. While there is no railway system in the country, it is possible to travel by train through Iraq to Basra then to reach Kuwait by road, steam launch, or sailing boat, although there are no scheduled services.

A number of shipping lines call regularly. Limited passenger accommodation exists on cargo ships operated by the P & O/Strick Line from Britain, but these services are irregular. Passenger liners operate between Kuwait, India and Pakistan.

Currency

The Kuwaiti dinar (KD) is divided into 1,000 fils. Notes are circulated in 1, 1/2, 5, and 10 dinar denominations, and coins in units of 1, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 fils.

Travel

No visa is required by holders of British passports who were either born in or are resident in the United Kingdom; nor is one needed by Arab nationals other than those from Sudan or South Yemen. A visitor's permit is, however, necessary; this is issued free by the embassy, or by the Ministry of the Interior's Passport Office, through a sponsor resident in Kuwait. In special circumstances the permit can be obtained from an immigration officer at the point of entry into Kuwait, but it is valid for three days only.

Entry visas are required by all others. These can be obtained from the embassy. Those who wish to work or live in the country need a 'no objection' certificate from the Ministry of the Interior and a sponsor, Kuwaiti employer or sponsor. A residence permit is subsequently issued on the basis of the certificate.

Documentation of any kind is best obtained before leaving for Kuwait, and the traveller is advised to check the latest regulations with embassy officials. Passports bearing evidence of past or planned visits to Israel are not acceptable.

Local travel

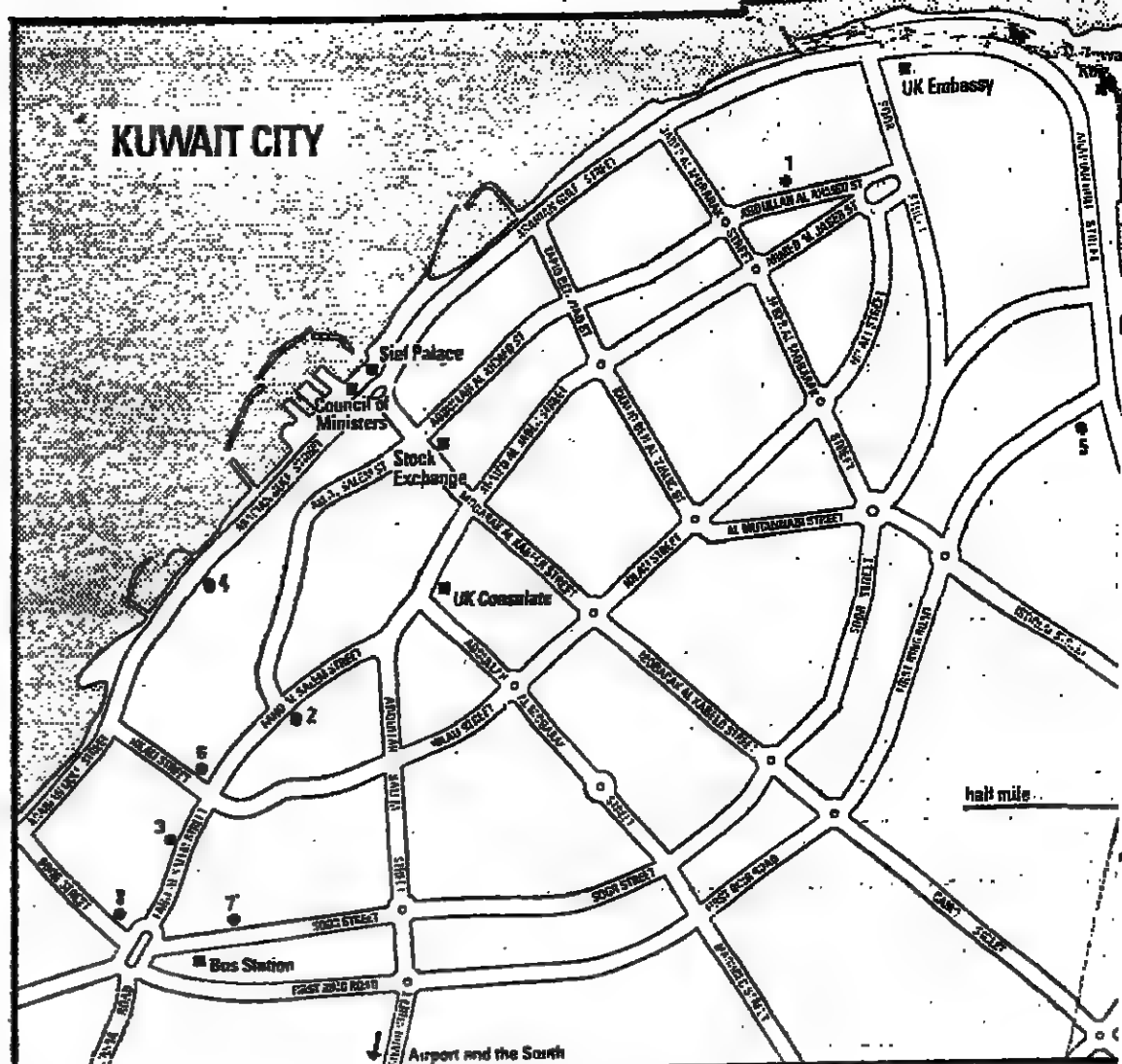
Good roads have been built throughout Kuwait. Air-conditioned coaches operate in the capital's suburbs, but most visitors find taxis more convenient; there are plenty of them, and they generally operate on a fixed fare basis within the city. If making a number of calls, try to hire a taxi by the hour or day and do not hesitate to give directions to the driver how to reach the required destination.

Self-drive cars are available, and a temporary driving licence, valid for a month, is usually granted within five days if an international licence is produced; neither the latter nor a British licence is acceptable in itself. Traffic travels on the right, and speed limits are 45 kilometres an hour in central Kuwait and 70 kph outside. There are no internal air services or rail ways, but flights to other parts of the world are operated from the international airport.

What to wear

British-type autumn or winter clothing is suitable from November to about mid-March, but for the rest of the year tropical-weight suits are necessary.

Cotton or silk dresses are best for women during the summer, and stockings are not necessary. During winter, suits or skirts with blouses or jumpers are advisable.



Shopping

The shops open from 8 am until 8.30 pm from Saturday to Thursday, closing for lunch between 12.30 and 3.30 pm. On Friday they operate from 8 am until noon. The banks are open between 8 am and noon Saturday to Thursday.

Local customs and advice to visitors

Kuwait was the first of the Gulf countries to benefit from its huge oil reserves, and it is today the most technologically advanced state in the area. The high per capita income is reflected everywhere, yet many of its people maintain the traditional customs: the long, white dishdasha and white headress are still worn.

Coffee, tea or some other refreshment is usually served to visitors, and it is considered polite to accept. Food and drink should be taken with the right hand, not the left. Cups will be refilled every time they are emptied, unless the guest shakes the vessel slightly before returning it.

Evening meals are often served quite late in Kuwaiti homes, because visitors generally leave immediately after the coffee or tea has been drunk and there is no wish on the part of the host to see his guests leave too early. It is impolite to show the soles of the feet.

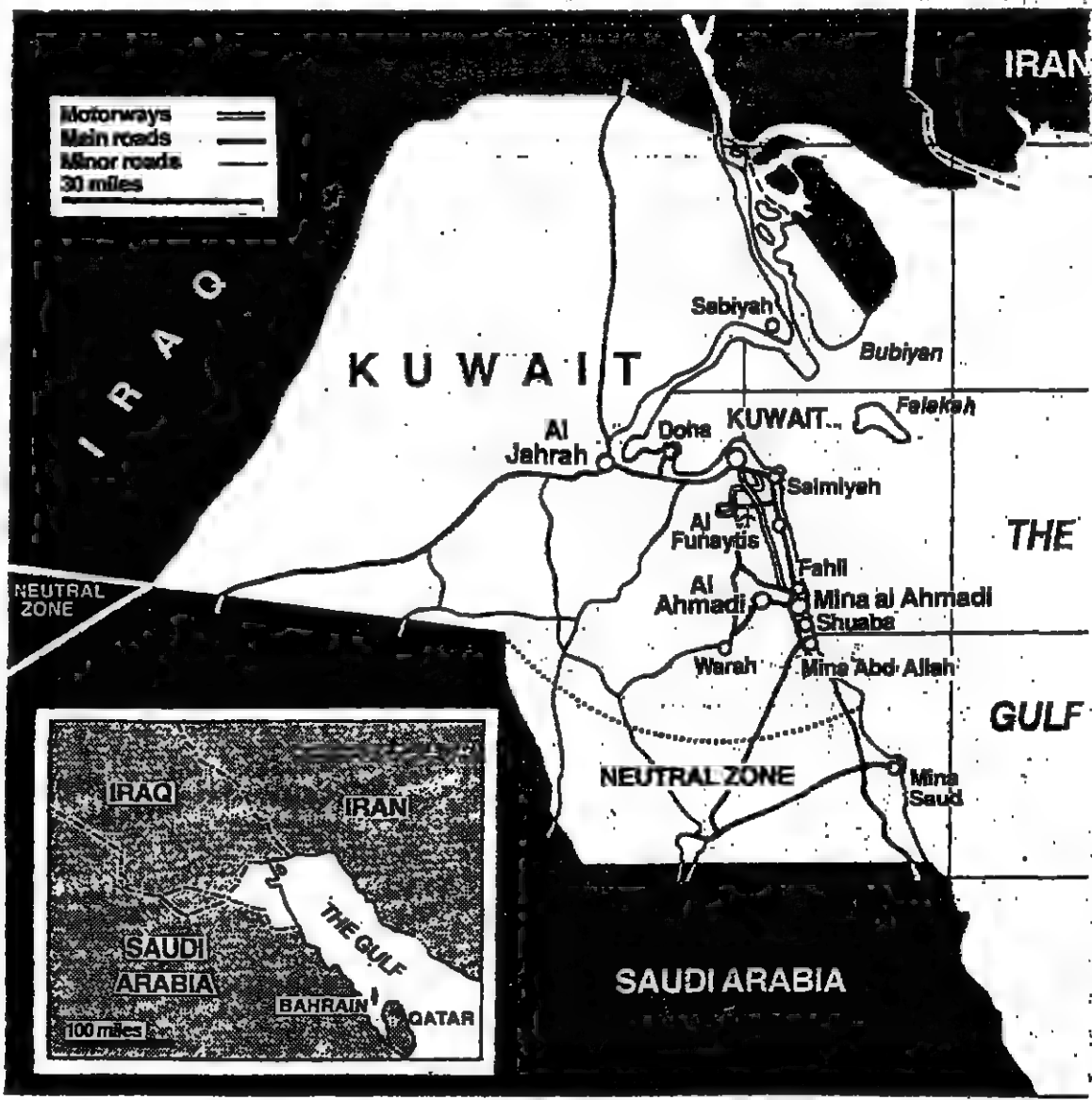
Although Kuwaiti husbands still tend not to take their wives to social functions, the practice is rapidly dying; women are also coming to be accepted in the Civil Service and in business generally.

As is common elsewhere in the area, alcohol is officially banned, although it is available to members of the diplomatic corps. Infringement of the law leads to heavy penalties. Customs officers will confiscate any liquor they find in visitors' baggage; tobacco for personal consumption, personal effects and trade samples are admitted free of duty, and there is no limit to the amount of currency imported or exported.

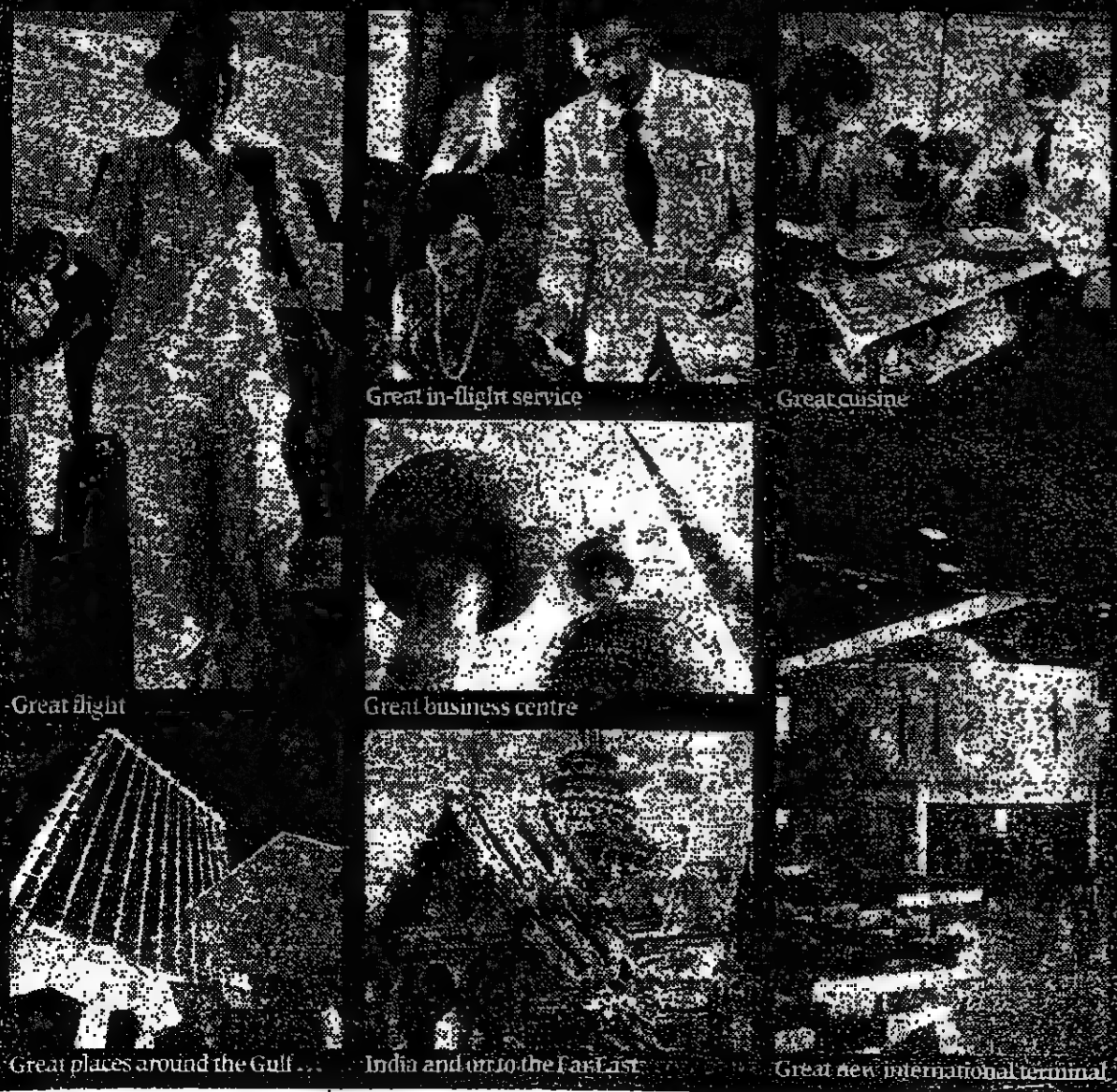
Hotels (see map)

Kuwait City	Telephone
(1) Ambassador	473288/9
(2) Bristol	49281/4
(3) Carlton	423171
(4) Golden Beach	39521/2
(5) Hilton	813486
(6) Messilah Beach Hotel	421051
(7) Phoenix	
(8) Sheraton	422055

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General

Country

Kuwait stands at the north-western head of The Gulf, occupying nearly 10,000 square miles of the Arabian peninsula and including within its domain more than 600 square miles of islands. Among the latter are Failaka, some 20 miles east of Kuwait Bay, Bubiyan and seven others. The country's mainland borders are with Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

Most of Kuwait is flat, desert land, relieved only by a few shallow depressions and some rocky hills, none of which rises for more than 1,000 ft above sea level. While there are no rivers or streams, the country has several oases, the biggest of which, Al Jahra, is situated nearly 20 miles west of Kuwait City. The coastline extends for about 140 miles, much of it forming the bay on which the capital stands.

Nearly 400 different kinds of desert flowers have been recorded, and these brighten the landscape during the brief winter. Birds and insects have been returning to the country, as prosperity has led to the cultivation of gardens along the coastal

regions and inland. Hunting has depleted the ranks of the once numerous gazelle, the ibex is rare and the oryx has almost disappeared.

History

For centuries the area now known as Kuwait was inhabited by nomadic tribesmen. Early in the seventeenth century the Portuguese built a fort on the site of today's Kuwait City, and the area was also visited by Danish and English seamen. The ancestors of the present people of Kuwait are thought to have settled in the area at the beginning of the eighteenth century, possibly adopting the name Kuwait from the Arabic koot, meaning a small fortress.

Among the new arrivals were members of the Khalifa family, who later became the ruling influence in Bahrain, and the Al-Sabah, from whom was appointed the first Emir, Al-Sabah I, in 1756. Kuwait's prosperity was marred by the activities of Gulf pirates, Turkish raiders from the north, and invading tribesmen from the hinterland, but these disruptions eventually died away and for much of the nineteenth

century the Kuwaitis spent their time consolidating the country's position as a key trading centre.

Sheikh Mohammed took over the leadership in 1893, but failed to maintain the peace; he was subsequently murdered by his half brother, Mubarak. The new leader cut the country's links with the Turks and, in 1897, asked the British for protection. At first the approach was met with indifference, but when Germany began increasing its activities in the Middle East, Britain began to warm to the idea. A treaty was signed on January 23, 1899, and five years later a political agent, Colonel G. S. Knox, was sent to the country.

Kuwait's present borders were defined in 1922, and a neutral zone was set up with Saudi Arabia. About 10 years later the foundations of the country's present prosperity were laid when British Petroleum and Gulf Oil of the United States were granted, through the Kuwait Oil Company, an oil concession. Exploitation of the first oil, discovered in 1938, was delayed by the outbreak of the

continued on facing page

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Michael Prest considers two related dilemmas of a country with enormous income

How to dispose of a revenue surplus

Whereas in these straightened times most countries are seeking to reduce expenditure, the Government of Kuwait is constantly trying to raise spending to meet income. The apparently inexorable rise in oil prices, partly because of market pressures and partly because of conscious decisions by the Kuwait Government among others, leaves government revenues way beyond requirements.

Even after the prudent policy of suppressing inflation and the legal minimum of saving have been met, Kuwait's revenue surplus in the current financial year could be as much as \$5,000m. Spending, which is not directly productive in an industrial sense falls into various categories. One is dispersal of income overseas, either through foreign aid or through investment forming part of state reserves. To some extent both may be regarded as aspects of foreign policy.

The second is social development at home, a heading which must be treated cautiously because of the many activities it embraces. Unlike expenditure abroad, which can be seen as a weapon against inflation, social expenditure may increase inflation and is therefore approached by government with care. A third spending category is domestic basic services and industry.

Perhaps the most extraordinary figure, in a country where statistics are almost American in their capacity, to surprise, is the volume of foreign aid given. Kuwait is estimated to be giving away annually about 7.5 per cent of gross national product, or, if that rate is maintained, about \$1,500m this year. Since independence in 1961, Kuwait may have given away \$10,000m. All this is quite separate from commercial and private investment outside the emirate.

Two main channels are used for official assistance. The best known is the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, founded in the same year as independence. After a number of accretions, the fund's authorized capital is now about \$3,800m, and the paid-up capital is \$125m. In practice assistance is not completely restricted to Arab states, although they received about half the \$2,200m lent up to the middle of 1979. About 30 per cent was borrowed by Asian countries, and 16 per cent by African ones.

In theory terms are commercial, although sometimes loans are very soft. Last year, for instance, the fund lent \$5.4m to the Comoros islands at 0.5 per cent interest, repayable over 40 years and with a 19-year grace period. But under its charter the fund cannot provide balance of payments or budget assistance, only project aid.

Less specific aid is the responsibility of the Ministry of Finance. Figures for its budgetary and balance of payments support are not published, only because much of it over the years has been political: support for the Palestine Liberation Organization and other Arab states in their struggle against Israel, with military spending forming a high proportion.

The ministry also handles contributions to pan-Arab bodies such as the Islamic Development Bank, the Opec Special Fund, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, which happens to be based in Kuwait, and other organizations including the United Nations and the World Bank.

The importance of this heavy and systematic spending goes beyond charity, although it would be charitable and hypocritical of countries whose foreign assistance does not meet the agreed base of 0.75 per cent of gnp annually to ignore Kuwait's generosity. For a tiny state as militarily weak as Kuwait, foreign aid is a telling method of securing friends and influence. It is not accidental that in recent years the Government has quietly tried to put more emphasis on pan-Arab projects, thereby drawing the fangs of some of the more radical Arab regimes.

Some of the same considerations may apply to official foreign investment, but in this case the stringencies are very different. Foreign investment by the Government is dictated by law, prudence and policy. The legal requirement is that 10 per cent of gross government revenues be committed to the Kuwait Fund for Future Generations.

At the end of 1978 the fund held about \$13,000m, and must now be about \$15,000m. The limitations of the Kuwaiti economy mean the vast bulk of this considerable sum must be invested abroad.

In addition, a policy of providing as much as possible for the future—in other words, deferring current spending—against a fall in oil income, which is not necessarily the same as the "oil running out", means that the state general reserve has assets of a further \$20,000m to \$25,000m.

Most of these funds are handled by the Ministry of Finance, amid great secrecy. The largest proportion is obviously in the United States, and even more could be denominated in dollars. Altogether about 18 portfolio managers are thought to be employed, including most of the world's leading banks. The more public investments are 14 per cent in Daimler-Benz, a large piece of real estate around the Champs Elysées, and 35 million shares in various Japanese heavy industries.

These overseas holdings probably generate an income of at least \$3,000m a year, all of which is promptly re-invested. One type of domestic expenditure which is unavoidable, again for reasons of policy and prudence, is industrial and basic service development. Curiously, Kuwait might still in some ways be thought an underdeveloped country if judged by these standards. Apart from the oil sector and a small amount of private industry catering for construction and home consumption, government policy towards industry has been cautious.

The project budget in this financial year is only about \$1,500m, of which a mere \$140m is for new schemes. The Ministry of Public Works and the Ministry of Electricity and Water, together account for about 85 per cent of all project spending.

All economies have their oddities, but Kuwait's is one of the strangest. Consider: a government whose revenues may run this year to more than \$20,000m has only two chief ways of controlling income and expenditure—reducing oil output and putting more cash to reserve. While 95 per cent of revenue is generated by oil, that sector employs only about 5,000 people, just 2 per cent of the labour force, and a policy of complete freedom of capital movement makes the economy prone to liquidity crises, although 46 per cent of the whole population is employed by the Government.

At the heart of these dilemmas and contradictions is a simple ideological fact. Although the state-controlled oil sector of the economy is overwhelming, the Government is committed to free enterprise. For centuries Kuwaiti merchants have been renowned throughout the region for their trading skills, and the ruling family knows it cannot suppress those skills even if it wishes. The Stock Exchange, investment companies, new ventures in shipping and industry, are all testimony to the speed with which Kuwaitis have adapted to contemporary forms of trading.

Yet sincere dedication to free enterprise is combined with a deep-rooted cultural belief in promoting the welfare of citizens. Critics see the huge social expenditure, and the more or less open-ended Civil Service, as a kind of paternalism which disguises an otherwise conservative and undemocratic state. However justified such criticisms may be, the welfare state also has origins in Islamic notions of charity.

At the same time, the particular way in which this system has developed—at least in so far as it applies to Kuwaiti citizens rather than those who live in the country but have inferior rights—owes much to the economy's lopsided structure. It has been argued that the Government's and the country's huge revenues are identical and are not the work of a significant group of economic agents, whether entrepreneurs, labourers, industrialists or firms; consequently, all sections of the population are equally entitled to the benefits. By the

same token, the incentive to work in a supposedly free enterprise economy is much reduced.

The claims of the population to become vendors are all the harder to resist because the Government has so few macroeconomic instruments at its disposal. There are no taxes, although the idea has been mooted, so the sole fiscal weapon is control of government spending. This has been used with some success over the past two years, chiefly to bring down the inflation rate. The 1977-78 and 1978-79 general budgets were held at about \$8,300m, and the present budget allows for only a slight increase in prices. Partly as a result, inflation has subsided from about 25 per cent a year to roughly 12 per cent.

Income which is not spent is put straight to reserve. By the end of 1978 those reserves stood at the enormous amount of approximately \$35,000m, and are probably growing by some \$10,000m a year. For the other side of the expenditure equation is the equal difficulty the Government has in restricting income. Oil production has now been cut to 1,500,000 barrels a day, one million barrels a day fewer than a year ago. But over the same period Kuwait's oil prices have gone up by nearly 150 per cent, although for a time the official policy was to hold them down in the interests of oil-importers.

An illustration of how embarrassing oil income is becoming is that income from other sources covers about 35 per cent of government expenditure. Of rapidly growing importance is investment income, now possibly more than \$3,000m a year. Government planners believe that the non-oil gross domestic product is capable of sustaining a real growth rate of 7 per cent over the next five years, compared with 17 per cent a year between 1972-73 and 1977-78. The sector includes private industry, basic services and government projects in petrochemicals and related fields.

It remains to be seen, however, whether the planners can either plan or put their plans into practice. The record so far is not good, although whether that much matters in a country

like the Kuwait is debatable. The planners' essential aim is to diversify away from oil. At present consumption rates, reserves are expected to last for 100 years. But it is impossible to anticipate what will happen in that time, and Kuwait has no wish to remain a monoculture economy. More specifically, dependence on oil in the international economy as it is at present constructed implies a continuous inflationary danger.

This danger explains one of the central oddities of the Kuwaiti economy. Despite the theoretical increase in gnp the actual rise in individual living standards is much slower. Last year the World Bank estimated per capita income at \$14,900, the highest in the world. Between 1972-73 and 1977-78 total gnp expanded at an average of 22 per cent a year. But government efforts to control inflation by holding down spending and putting a steadily larger proportion of income into reserves mean that available income per capita is in fact much less than total gnp. By the end of the current financial year, for instance, it could be about half.

The over-reliance, however, is that the Government has ample resources to pump into the economy if and when it is necessary. During last year's liquidity crisis, brought on by fixed interest rates well below international rates and by a massive flight of funds after

the fall of the Shah of Iran, the authorities resorted to their old device of land sales. Increased welfare spending, especially on housing, may also be seen as adding to income. But whatever policy instruments the Government employs, one problem is likely to prove very hard to overcome. Development away from oil implies sucking in an even bigger foreign labour force. According to the 1975 census, the population consisted of 502,300 Kuwaitis and 563,000 others. The census now being conducted could reveal a population of 1,800,000. By the year 2000 it is likely to be much bigger than the 2,500,000 originally forecast by the planners. And although the strictly Kuwaiti population is growing faster than the non-Kuwaiti, the latter will still be about half the total.

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Control of government spending is sole fiscal weapon

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From Mr John Boulton.
 Sir, Regarding the letter (June 4)
 about cooked eggs and silver: The
 inside of an egg contains compounds
 of sulphur which are soluble in hot
 water. The contact of these sub-
 stances with the metal produces
 a black sulphide as a black stain. Of
 the listed ways of cooking an egg
 the poaching brings the inside into
 contact with hot water - which
 attacks the sulphur bodies out of the
 egg. Therefore only poached eggs
 do not stain silver.
 Yours sincerely,
 JOHN BOULTON,
 Lillingston Avenue,
 Lillingston Spa,
 Warwickshire.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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Bank withdraws £1,000m from money markets and cancels £500m recall

By Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent

In a further smoothing of interest rates, the Bank of England has withdrawn £1,000m from the money markets and cancelled a £500m recall of deposits from the banking system.

The move is seen as a response to the easing of pressure on interest rates.

So far the first time since 1977 the banks are relieved from special deposits. With the "special" savings of next month, the Government's only control of monetary policy is to be action on interest rates.

Earlier in the year the Bank, in an attempt to prevent interest rates rising further, allowed clearing banks to sell and repurchase later £1,000m of gilt edged stock, equivalent to 3 per cent of their eligible liabilities.

The Bank also temporarily pumped £1,000m into the banking system by releasing for a short while the 2 per cent of

the eligible liabilities the clearing banks had to place with the Bank of England as special deposits since 1977.

Although the Government is committed to a free market in money rates in the first four months of the year the authorities felt that a Minimum Lending Rate of 17 per cent was as high as they could go. There were then intense pressures for higher rates because of the very large flow of funds from the private sector into the Exchequer.

There were advance payments to the British National Oil Corporation of £500m and the Government had brought forward by two months the payment of the Petroleum Revenue Tax.

Together with an active policy on gilts sales to tax gathering season and sudden payment of telephone bills after the strike the public sector had a temporary surplus at a time when demand from the hard pressed corporate sector was strong.

The Government then took the view that as the problem was temporary some relief on interest rates would not clash with the Government's philosophy. Even so, until last month, the authorities had in effect to intervene to prevent interest rates moving higher.

And had the recall of the £500m from the banking system not been cancelled rates would probably have gone up even now.

As the public sector is now moving into deficit interest rates have fallen slightly. The overnight rate, for example, which in April stood at 17 per cent is now below 16 per cent. The authorities ran the risk of losing their tight control of the money markets.

On May 9 the Bank of England cancelled permanently the recall of 1 per cent of the banks' eligible liabilities which were equivalent to £500m and it is now cancelling the rest.

Financial Editor, page 19

Land Securities £108m rights issue

By Richard Allen

Land Securities, Europe's biggest property group, stunned the stock market yesterday with news of a £108m rights issue.

The issue will be the biggest since 1967, representing a discount of over 20 per cent on the overnight price of 330p a share.

Land Securities is to offer one new share for every six held at a price of 385p, representing a discount of over 20 per cent on the overnight price of 330p a share.

After the announcement Land Securities' share price fell 20p to 310p and sharp falls were recorded elsewhere in the property sector.

The group wants the cash to

finance further developments in particular two large projects in prime London locations. These are the complete refurbishment of Devonshire House in Piccadilly and the construction of a 130,000 sq ft office block in King William Street in the City.

These and other refurbishments and developments represented a further capital expenditure commitment of £25m at the end of March, while the group is considering several other possible freehold purchases.

The group's borrowings stood at only £30m at 26 per cent of shareholders' funds as the last balance sheet date.

Sue Love, Secretary of the Cross, chairman of Land Securities, said:

known as one of the most cautious property chiefs, has decided against borrowing at current rates, so finance further development.

Together with a string of other property companies, Land Securities has recently reported a strong rise in earnings. Profits announced last month were 45 per cent up at £38.1m.

Also last month the group revealed that a sample valuation of its portfolio had thrown up an increase of 25 per cent over an end March value of around £1,200m.

This would represent a fully diluted asset value of 490p a share which would fall to below 460p on the shares ex-rights.

While other sectors of the market have sagged, property

shares have risen strongly in the first part of this year reflecting fairly heavy institutional buying.

Before the rights Land Securities had been among the strongest performers, partly because of its low gearing and the fact that almost 70 per cent of its portfolio is in London.

Market suggestions that Land Securities might be considering using some of the cash to make a takeover of another property company were denied by spokesmen last night.

Under the terms of the issue which has been underwritten by J. Henry Schroder Wagg, merchant bankers, pro rata terms are offered to holders of all convertible loan stocks.

Fed to maintain money targets

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, June 5

Further moves by the United States Federal Reserve Board either to directly boost bank reserves or eliminate the remnants of the special credit controls imposed on March 14 are likely soon, according to informed sources.

But Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Fed stressed yesterday that it would be utterly wrong to conclude that the Fed was easing its policies. The Fed was determined to attain its money growth targets.

His remarks came as several large banks cut their prime rates from 14 to 13 per cent and First National Bank, in Miami, moved down to 12 per cent. Other banks are bound to follow, especially if the Fed does act to increase bank reserves or reduce controls.

Such moves would be wholly consistent with Mr Volcker's comments on attaining the money supply targets. The latest money stock data show an almost degree of money supply contraction.

The Fed could add substantial sums to bank reserves now and still ensure that the money

stock is below or at its target levels of 3 to 6 per cent for M1A and 4 to 6.5 per cent for M1B.

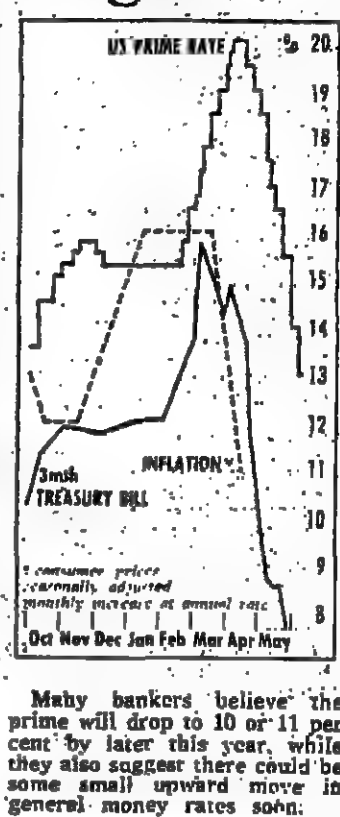
Data for the four weeks to May 21 compared to the previous 13 weeks showed that M1A and M1B fell on a seasonally adjusted annual basis by respectively 7.2 and 5.9 per cent, while compared to six months earlier M1A was down by 0.3 per cent and M1B was up by only 0.7 per cent.

And the money aggregates have grown over the past year by just 3.6 per cent on an M1A basis and 4.6 per cent on an M1B basis.

Significantly central bankers, including governors of the Fed, do not appear worried about the effects of declining United States interest rates on the external value of the dollar.

There appears to be some evidence that investors who moved into dollars a few months ago to lock in the record high United States yields are now turning to gold as the United States investments become less attractive.

The rate for Federal funds is now trading at about 9 1/2 per cent and the prime rate at 13 per cent is still one of the highest in the money market rates.



BP starts 1980 strongly

By Our Financial Staff

A shortage of crude oil supplies is putting British Petroleum at a considerable disadvantage to its competitors, the group warns in its first quarterly trading statement.

All the same, BP has made a strong start to the year with net income in the first three months of 1980 rising to £270m in the same period last year and £493m in the final quarter last year to £504.7m.

As has been the case for the last year or so while oil prices have been rising rapidly, these figures are heavily distorted by the need for British oil companies to use the first-in/first-out system of accounting.

BP says that a truer picture comes from the current cost figures which show net income up from £120m in the corresponding last year to £161m, although this is slightly down on the £168m in the final quarter last year.

The increase in profits has come entirely from BP's North American and North Sea interests. On a current cost basis BP's US Shio operation contributed £71m of the £161m profit against £38m last year.

Oil production from its Forties and Ninian fields averaged 550,000 barrels a day against 460,000 a year earlier. Elsewhere, BP warns that although chemicals and plastics made a satisfactory start to the quarter, by the end of the quarter they were in "severe decline".

BP is also now having to set aside much higher levels of petroleum revenue tax on its North Sea operations—up from £139m to £290m, in the first quarter—now that most of its available allowances have been used.

BP points out that it is "more exposed to the uncertainties of purchasing in the open market than competitors with more secure access to lower cost oil". Supplies are adequate for the time being, BP says, but prices in the major European markets are too low to cover the higher cost of replacement oil. On the stock market BP shares gained 2p to 358p.

Financial Editor, page 19

£40m order for British Aerospace

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

British Aerospace announced yesterday that it has landed the first order for the four-jet 146 airliner. Six of the aircraft will go to the Argentinian airline, Linasa Areas Privadas Argentinas (LAPA), in a contract worth initially around £40m.

The order is a vital one as the project has been plagued by cancellation rumours since the first of the world aerospace industry that, with fuel costs escalating, airlines are reluctant to invest in new aircraft.

Other airlines are expected to take increasing interest in the project now that LAPA has opened the order book.

The LAPA Argentine order is for three aircraft initially, two series 100, each with 30 seats, for delivery in September and October 1982, and one series 200, 100-seater, for delivery in March 1983. Three more aircraft, all series 200s, are on option to buy, with deposits paid.

The 146 is being assembled at the Bedfordshire, Bedfordshire, works of British Aerospace from parts made at other BA factories, and aerospace companies in the United States and Sweden.

The first set of wings arrived from the Avco company in the United States earlier this week, and the first centre fuselage is expected to arrive from BA's factory at Filton, Bristol, today.

Interest rates and strong pound attract big capital inflows

By Caroline Atkinson

High interest rates and a strong pound have attracted large capital inflows into Britain in the first three months of this year.

A surplus of about £1,000m in the capital account of the balance of payments accounted for the first quarter of the year according to the official balance of payments figures published yesterday. This was more than enough to cover the deficit of £586m on the current account.

Invisible trade, including tourism, picked up from the first three months of last year. There was a sharp upturn in the number of tourists visiting Britain from the depressed level in 1979. But their average spending has not kept pace with inflation and the high exchange rate of the pound.

British going abroad boosted their spending to allow for inflation overseas and a steady increase in British tourists travelling overseas continued in the first three months of this year.

But Britain's net earnings from tourism rose to £182m in the first three months from £156m at the end of 1979.

Other parts of the current account on invisibles did not fare so well, with the interest, profit and dividends registering a small deficit as profits payable overseas from the North Sea started to build up.

The figures were also depressed by the high interest rates paid by United Kingdom banks to foreign depositors. British companies also received less profits from overseas, partly because the United States economy, in which many British banks have investments, started to decline.

British payments to the EEC fell to £384m, but this drop was technical. The British contribution to the community budget during the remaining part of this year is likely to be much larger, although a lot of the money should return in the first quarter of 1981.

The large inflows of capital during the quarter pushed up the pound from an effective exchange rate of 72.2 per cent of its 1971 level in January to 72.5 per cent at the end of March.

Overseas residents built up their holdings of sterling, mostly as bank deposits or Treasury bills. Little of the £700m inflow from overseas residents went into gilts during the first quarter, suggesting that much of it was hot money looking for higher short term interest rates.

This inflow was balanced to some extent by increased lending to the community budget which is thought to have accounted for a £400m outflow of funds. One problem in estimating how funds moved in both directions is that the abolition of exchange controls led to the abolition of most of the system for collecting data.

New rules on employment of disabled

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Companies will shortly have to take a new look at their attitudes to disabled employees.

Mr Reginald Eyre, Under Secretary at the Department of Trade and Industry, in a parliamentary written answer yesterday said that he intends to invoke his new powers under the 1980 Companies Act to compel companies above a certain size to include in their annual reports a statement of the policies in respect of the employment of disabled persons.

The regulations are to be brought into force as soon as possible after June 23 when the relevant section of the Act comes into effect. A draft of these will, however, be circulated to interested parties for comment before the requirements are finalized.

The move has been prompted by concern about the growing proportion of employers who have not filled the quotas of disabled employees as laid down in the Disabled Persons Employment Act 1958. This has grown from 57.3 per cent of employers in 1970 to 63.2 per cent for 1979, the latest year for which figures are available.

Employers maintain that they are unable to meet their quotas because there are not enough registered disabled persons applying for jobs, or that this is due to a natural reluctance on the part of the disabled to register.

Data bank service to cut empty lorry journeys

By Edward Townsend

British Road Services, part of the state-owned National Freight Corporation, yesterday introduced a new computerized data bank service aimed at cutting the number of empty lorries on Britain's roads.

Annual expenditure on road freight is more than £10,000m, and it is estimated that almost a third of all lorries on the roads at any one time are running empty, mostly because of the lack of information on the availability of loads for the return trip.

The new service, called Data-freight, was launched by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Parliamentary Secretary for Transport, who gives hauliers and customers access to a computerized list of what loads are available in a specific area and what lorries are able to carry them.

BRS has also set up freight branches throughout the country to be increased to 70 by early next year. Subscribers are charged £75 plus £50 a year for each vehicle entered on the list.

Mr Clarke said that a recent report from the Transport and Road Research Laboratory estimated that empty running was costing about £1,400m at 1978 prices.

operating costs. Even a 3.5 per cent reduction in empty running could produce annual cost savings of at least £48m and fuel savings of over 10 million gallons.

Mr David White, BRS group managing director, said that in the first four months of this year, hauliers' costs had risen by almost 14 per cent. But the increase was not, as could be expected, the result of higher fuel costs so much as the effect of wage increases.

Wages in the industry were now rising faster than inflation and he gave warning that unless claims were more moderate this year, employment would suffer.

The new service would help to reduce inflationary pressure on the industry's efficiency, as well as cutting the "time spent by hauliers trying to find return loads and to improve the loads.

BRS says that a haulier can spend up to five hours telephoning potential customers.

There are 125,000 transport operators in the country, all phoning round "looking for back loads". The costs involved here, says BRS, are "incalculable".

Further sharp drop in US car sales

The United States car sales slumped accelerated in May as both domestic and foreign-car deliveries dropped markedly from the previous month.

For the domestic industry, the daily sales rate was the lowest in more than two decades.

New car sales in America fell more than 33 per cent to less than the previous high industry slump in 1975. While car sales have been deteriorating for months, the May drop was the largest month-to-month decline since the slump began last spring and was sharper than

many industry officials and outside analysts expected.

Dealers of domestic and foreign makes retailed about 694,000 new cars in May, down from about 1,041,000 last year. Following the recent pattern, sales of imported cars fell from last year's unusually strong level, as all United States car makers posted sharp declines.

American car makers retailed 496,912 units, off nearly 37 per cent from last year. A Wall Street Journal survey of leading importers showed that the number of foreign cars retailed in May fell more than 22 per cent from a year ago to about

197,000 units, with virtually all main importers suffering sharp drops. In the year ago month, foreign makes retailed about 254,000 cars.

Among domestic car companies, General Motors' sales plunged nearly 34 per cent, Ford almost 41 per cent, Chrysler lost 49 per cent and American Motors nearly 39 per cent.

Volkswagen of America Incorporated, which had been posting year-to-year monthly sales improvements, reported its dealers sold nearly 1 per cent fewer units than in May 1979. Rebates change little.

Steel chiefs give evidence to MPs investigating crisis in South Wales

BSC task 'like running up a down escalator'

Mr Ian MacGregor, the new chairman of British Steel, said yesterday that trying to make a success out of British Steel was like attempting to run up a down-going escalator.

Mr MacGregor was giving evidence with Sir Charles Villiers, the retiring BSC chairman, and other top steel executives, to a committee of Welsh MPs investigating the crisis facing the steel industry in South Wales.

It was Sir Charles who coined the escalator phrase, but Mr MacGregor said Sir Charles had put his finger on the scale of the task facing BSC.

Sir Charles said BSC's poor performance could not be blamed for lack of government cash. British Steel had been given £2,000m in the last three years.

"No steel industry in Europe or anywhere else in the world had had a financial subsidy of anything like £2,000m, free of interest that we have had," he said.

"This completely overshadows any other subsidies received by other European steel industries."

None of BSC's main rivals abroad had cash limits anywhere near as generous as the £450m set by the Government for this year.

"We are far greater in debt to the Government in any respect than any other steel com-

pany in the world and I am aware of that," he said.

BSC's biggest problems had been that Mr Leo Abse, the chairman of the MP's committee, said had been "battered about" by Tories in prices and by Labour in plant closures.

Steel industries in the rest of Europe had been much quicker to see the "writing on the wall" for the industry and slumped down in response.

There was no possibility of BSC making a profit this year. He knew nothing about a target profit of £350m this year, that Mr Leo Abse, the chairman of the MP's committee, said had been "battered about" by Tories in prices and by Labour in plant closures.

Mr Abse had suggested that social considerations should be included in the criteria—or Mr MacGregor might find it "irresistible" to achieve BSC's financial targets by cutting manpower still further.

In reply to an accusation from Mr Ian Evans, Labour MP for Aberdare, accusation that he was taking "a butcher's axe" to steel industry in Wales, Mr MacGregor said: "Instead of a butcher's axe, I would suggest we are using a pruning knife to the wages to get a better growth."

But he said that BSC would have to "examine very carefully" the assumptions it had made about future prospects last autumn in the light of subsequent market conditions.

He defended his use of the McKinsey management consultancy to review how BSC was set up "to make sure we have the most efficient use of the people concerned."

Mr Robert Scholey the chief executive, denied that he had told a December meeting with the steel unions that closures

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35p to 255p	Weylton	3p to 37p
11p to 111p	Yorks & Lancs	3p to 35p

1p to 9p	Land Secs	20p to 210p
5p to 85p	Massey-Perg	20p to 285p
16p to 222p	Municipal	10p to 470p
25p to 855p	Osborne	17 to 155
10p to 313p	Youghal Carpets	1p to 10p

THE POUND

Bank of England	Bank of America
buy	buy
2.09	2.02
30.65	28.50
69.25	65.75
9.75	9.65
13.30	12.65
8.84	8.44
9.85	9.45
4.28	4.06
101.50	96.50
11.75	11.30
1.12	1.09
1950.00	1895.00
541.00	516.00
4.70	4.47



Honda plan to expand in Belgium and Italy

Honda Motor Co of Tokyo is planning to expand motorcycle production capacity in Belgium and Italy.

It is building about 100,000 motorcycles a year at its wholly owned Belgian subsidiary, Honda Benelux NV in Aalst, while an Italo-Japanese joint company, IPA Industries SPA in Atezza, is assembling about 18,000 motorcycles a year.

Honda refused to elaborate on expansion plans, but said it wants to raise the local content of the motorcycles.

The company said it had no plans to start producing cars in Europe other than a new Honda car to be produced in Britain jointly with BL.

Investment rises

Net inflow of foreign investment in enterprises in Australia, excluding undistributed income, rose to \$Aus 360m (about £178m) in the first quarter of 1980 from the previous quarter's downward revised \$Aus 254m, preliminary bureau of statistics figures show.

US price of beef

The United States Federal Trade Commission in Washington is conducting a broad anti-trust investigation of the United States beef industry. The commission believes that supermarket chains may be charging "excessive retail prices for beef" and some companies may have engaged in price fixing and manipulation.

Bonn car recession

West Germany's car industry is beginning to feel the chill of recession. Official figures show production in the first four months this year was 6 per cent down from a year ago at 1.35 million cars while sales were almost 10 per cent down at 959,200.

Japan curbs loans

Japanese banks have been told by the finance ministry in Tokyo to restrain lending to developing countries through syndicated loans to an average 40 to 50 per cent of total loans, banking sources say.

'Oil companies who benefit most from the centre should fund it'

Aid for diving school to be phased out

The Government has told the offshore oil industry it is to phase out the £800,000 a year it pays to run the Underwater Training Centre at Fort William, Invernesshire, which passes out 100 deep sea divers a year.

The centre was set up by the Manpower Services Commission five years ago in response to concern over the number of divers who were losing their lives in developing North Sea oil.

Despite an increase in the number of divers operating offshore using saturation diving techniques, involving their living under high pressure conditions and breathing a mixture of oxygen and helium, accident rates in recent years have fallen.

The centre is partially responsible, the offshore industry believes, for the improvement in the safety record. But increased experience and greater knowledge of North Sea conditions has also played an important part.

After five years of government funding, however, the Department of Energy, believes that the time has come for the industry to pay the cost of training the divers.

It is awaiting a proposal from offshore companies to start providing the finance to train saturation divers from around the end of the month, with all government aid for the deep sea school being brought to a close within the next couple of years. Finance for shallow diving is expected to continue.

The decision to cut off aid to the Fort Williams school is part of the general programme of spending cuts introduced

by the Government to reduce the public sector borrowing requirement. The department believes that the oil companies who use the divers should pay for their training.

Mr Hamish Gray, minister of state for energy, said yesterday: "Government has already made a substantial contribution towards the establishment and running of the Fort William Training School. The main beneficiaries are the oil companies and it is only right that over a period they should take over the funding of it. The industry appears to accept its responsibility and I do not envisage any difficulty in achieving an easy transition."

Difficulties, however, are being encountered. Oil industry representatives do not believe that if the school ceased to exist they would be short of divers. Competition to supply divers is high, the money they earn is good, and there is no shortage.

What would happen if Fort Williams were to close is that the number of British divers used in the United Kingdom and Norwegian sectors of the North Sea, would fall.

The oil companies pay the going rate for divers supplied by contractors and do not see why the contractors should not pay for their training themselves. The oil industry, would, however, recognize that the contractors had to pay for training at the rates they paid.

Diving contractors have put forward the view that they are in a highly competitive business and cannot afford the sort

of money which is required for training. The oil companies offer to pay for the school through higher rates, does not seem good enough.

The companies appear to have accepted with reluctance that they may have to pay for the future training of a group of men who are essential to their operations.

Nevertheless, the attitude of the department, in view of the lives at stake and the amount of revenue produced from offshore oil, has appeared to be penny-pinching.

Until the Fort William school was set up, there was no centre anywhere in the United Kingdom for the training of deep sea divers. Had it not been created there would have been the chance either that inadequately trained divers would have been recruited or that the majority of divers would have been foreign nationals.

Oil industry men argue that the way to improve standards is through regulations on training. They have no objection to paying for the extra rates that increased regulations would imply, but that is essentially different to paying training of personnel supplied by a contractor.

The irony of the government's decision to phase out money for Fort Williams is that the Norwegians have just opened a school for divers heralded by the industry as the most important single contribution to increased safety in diving so far made by the Norwegian authorities.

Nicholas Hirst

Yugoslavia praised by OECD

From Peter Norman

Brussels, June 5

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development today awarded high marks to Yugoslavia for the way in which the country's economy was managed in the latter years of President Tito's administration.

But it warned his successors that they would have to adjust economic and social goals to the less favourable world economic environment in drawing their plans for the country's economy in the years between 1981 and 1985.

Yugoslavia's achievement has been to keep economic growth at a high annual level of more than 5 per cent since 1973, despite the crisis of that year and the associated decline in the growth of world trade.

The OECD noted that this economic growth record has caused some strains in the economy, such as inflation running at a year on year rate of 23 per cent and a big increase in the country's current account balance of payments deficit to \$3,400m last year. But in their annual report on Yugoslavia the OECD's economists today said they expected stabilization measures introduced through the government in Belgrade will produce some positive results in the course of this year.

Former EMI engineers launch medical scanner

By Bill Johnstone

A small company, Meditech Engineering, set up by former EMI design engineers from EMI medical is almost ready to market a medical scanner which it believes will compete with the best in Europe.

The company was formed in February, 1979, by two EMI engineers. After frustrating negotiations with financiers in the city and government, the engineers won backing from private sources which they are reluctant to disclose.

The company is now 10 strong, largely formed from the medical electronics group of EMI and is operating from a manufacturing base in St Albans.

Engineers leaving a company and going it alone is not in itself unusual. What is surprising is that those at Meditech have chosen a market which has been the cause of huge losses already sustained by companies several hundreds of times their size.

The company's move comes in the wake of the sale of EMI's medical interest in scanners to its American rival General Electric (GE).

Under the terms of that agreement which lost GE \$37.5m, EMI withdrew from the scanner market which it had effectively created 8 years before.

EMI gained considerable prestige through the invention of the scanner by Mr Godfrey Hounsfield, of EMI who was awarded the Nobel Prize for technology.

But modest though the operation of the St Albans based Meditech is, the ex-EMI design engineers believe they have a product which is about sixty per cent cheaper than their nearest rival and is half as cheap to operate.

The engineers intend to pay a royalty to EMI for the benefit of any EMI scanner technology they use in their design.

The board of the company consists of two of the original founders of the group, a surgeon and a representative of one of their bankers.

The engineers have been heavily involved in research and are finishing prototype production experiments with a view to full production next year.

Meditech is making its presence felt at Olympia, at the British Hospital Medical Exhibition, and at Harrogate at the Radiographers' annual conference. This not only reflects the company's confidence but also the fact that budgets will be allocated this year for purchases next.

Depending on sales, Meditech intends to produce 10 to 25 systems a year which will retail at £150,000 each.

EEC delays damaging textile trade in Britain

By John Huxley

British textile leaders have accused the European Commission of often failing to prevent serious damage to the industry by taking too long over complaints about low-cost imports.

They say that the trade regime established under the Gatt Multi-Fibre Arrangement has worked reasonably well in limiting the growth of imports from countries such as Hong Kong, South Korea and India.

But exporters have eagerly exploited every opportunity open to them.

Mr Leonard Regan, president of the British Textile Confederation which represents trade associations and trade unions said that problems had also been caused by the bunching of imports early in the year.

He criticized the commission's "slowness in obtaining new restraints where necessary, under the special mechanism contained in the agreements". Moreover, when quotas are introduced the high level of trade which the exporting countries have been allowed to build up.

Mr Regan said in the confederation's annual report: "The global ceilings intended to limit our total low cost imports of particularly sensitive products have been repeatedly breached, to an extent sufficient to cause increased disruption on our market". He said this harmed the credibility of the European Community's policy on textiles.

The confederation says that employment fell by about 30,000 to little more than 450,000 last year. In recent months job losses have increased.

Mr Regan, who is also chairman of Carrington Vellie, says that the time taken by the commission in agreeing to unilateral quotas on fibre imports into the United Kingdom is "totally unacceptable". The agreed quotas also proved inadequate.

Smaller companies could follow French system on pensions

From Mr P. D. Jones

Sir, I can well understand Miss Jean Wilding's point (letters, June 5) about firms going into liquidation. My earlier suggestion for pay-as-you-go shared deduction with the cost of the larger organizations with a degree of stability. Incidentally, the Civil Service is by no means the only body of this kind: the majority of both public and private employees in this country work for employers large enough to have arrangements of the kind I have suggested.

So far as smaller employers are concerned, there is another possibility, and this is the system adopted in France under which the industry concerned takes overall responsibility for pensions matters covering all the firms operating within it. In the case quoted by Miss Wilding, the publishing industry now have the responsibility to look after retired former employees, even if the particular firm they worked for no longer exists.

On Miss Wilding's final point, I fully agree that pensioners without indexation are an underprivileged group. The Government, with its clear responsibility for the current level of inflation, is shirking its duty to do something (e.g. index-linked savings bonds) for this unfortunate group of people. Having said this, however, the existence of an underprivileged group is surely no valid reason for attacking others who have made prudent arrangements—particularly, as in the Civil Service case, as virtually no extra cost to the taxpayer.

Yours sincerely, P. D. JONES, Secretary, Council of Civil Service Unions, 19 Rochester Row, London SW1P 1LB, June 5.

From Mr D. C. Bondy

Sir, Contrary to the views of Mr Jones I know of no howls of rage from the "pensions industry" — and I have the privilege of representing a sub-

stantial sector of it. What we have tried to do in our utterances is to educate people in an admittedly difficult area of understanding; we have tried also to bring home to your readers, and others, the realities of financial disciplines and to steer people away from Mr Jones' simplistic belief that "pay as you go" is the palliative for all our ills. This, however, is a broad subject outside the scope of this response, but I will gladly offer Mr Jones a copy of a publication in France, of the kind I have suggested, so often eulogized as the epitome of that system.

If it is a "howl of rage" for me to say I agree with Mr Jones that the Civil Service is unfairly pilloried in this, a logic of index-linking (or inflation-proofing) — both terms being open to different interpretations and meaning definitions, as he says, then I am howling. What concerns many of us, is that the Pensions (Increase) Act 1971/73, have had the effect of extending index-linking throughout the public sector and the Civil Service is only a part of the whole.

Where I disagree most strongly with Mr Jones is his utter contempt of the English language. What he is describing in his letter is a privilege as more than the most cursory glance at a dictionary will show. What we are discussing is a contractual advantage enjoyed by a comparatively few people, not a privilege borne by the others. This is a privilege.

Whether or not such a privilege should exist is a profound matter that neither space nor the tolerance of your readers permit me to develop. Suffice it to record that one's readings of many articles, letters and the like leads to the conclusion that such privilege does not enjoy universal support within our community.

If I may yet offer another "howl of rage", those of us engaged as practitioners are deeply concerned about the insidious effects of inflation upon the end results of all our efforts. Effects over which we can have no control—unless, or

until, people (le such as Mr Jones) accept: priorities within of finite resources. It then, can equity absence of an, ment of inflation.

I am sure that be grateful to Mr "solution": we more grateful to, to tell us how it a residual unde works for busin exist, how it w ching industry with a demogr population, but no have their s from them etc, as a surprise I am sure that those in the sub ing familiar w are available items at. V. C. Jones that are not sig ly striving to ov able problems. W some consider: Although private do not enjoy sh ferred to above, is a fact that sig ber of them con the pensions of p in the financial ability to afford.

Lastly, if I believe that he have brought big ed (or index-l let him test that out into the ma seek to purchase His thought that: Acts of Parliame ably) fully prote each and every r tional scheme is thought unlikely any same Govern Act does exist (and increasing pensioners in the Security Pension Yours truly,

D. C. BANDEY, President, The S of Pension Consu Lodge House, Lodge Circus, London EC4A 2J May 29, 1980.

Can Immos penetrate United States and Japanese microcircuit markets

From Mr D. M. Ryan

Sir, Sir Keith Joseph's hesitation about making another £25m of taxpayers' money available to Immos is very understandable. In 1967 Mr Wedgwood Benn, the then Minister for Technology, allocated £5m to the National Research Development Corporation for the development of microcircuit capability in Britain. As I remember it the bulk of the money went to Plessey Ferranti and constituents of what is now the GEC group, the principal British owned companies who were already in the field. It should be remembered that microcircuit technology was already well developed at that time, with Altera, Onsemi, Fairchild (MOS) already in production and Large Scale Integration (LSI) already on the horizon.

The agreed quotas also proved inadequate.

the £5m was a loan, to be repaid from profits as they accrued to the companies. I have often wondered what happened to this money. I believe a firm factory was put up at Witham in Essex, but it never went into production of microcircuits, as by then the average price per circuit had plummeted from over £1 to 5s 6d. In 1970 D Jones, the managing director of Mullard, wrote to you, sir, complaining bitterly about imports at giveaway prices, particularly from the Far East.

In your issue of May 27 Kenneth Owen writes of a predicted market of £500m for the 64K dynamic RAM by 1984. In contrast the April issue of "Electronics Industry" reviews an independent market study of the European market for microcircuit memories, which puts the dynamic RAM sector at £100m in 1985. These two

forecasts can only if the balance of between the US and I find it believe that the nology is so far they are going these two marke una. It also puts mark against Dr to £95m net expo If history is a by, Sir Keith sc temptation to money after bud getting something essential to Brit capability, the should be set, defence budget and not disguised cial venture. Yours faithfully, D. M. RYAN, Technometrics Ltd, Manor House, Moreton, Dorchester DT2 9

Mowlem

International Construction, Mechanical Engineering and Manufacture and Distribution of Instruments and Products for the Construction Industry.

Salient points from Mr. Philip Beck's statement to shareholders

Shareholders' Funds increased by 33%.

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Dependence on the UK public sector construction market reduced. Development projects undertaken in partnership with institutional investors.

Wide spread of overseas operations maintained.

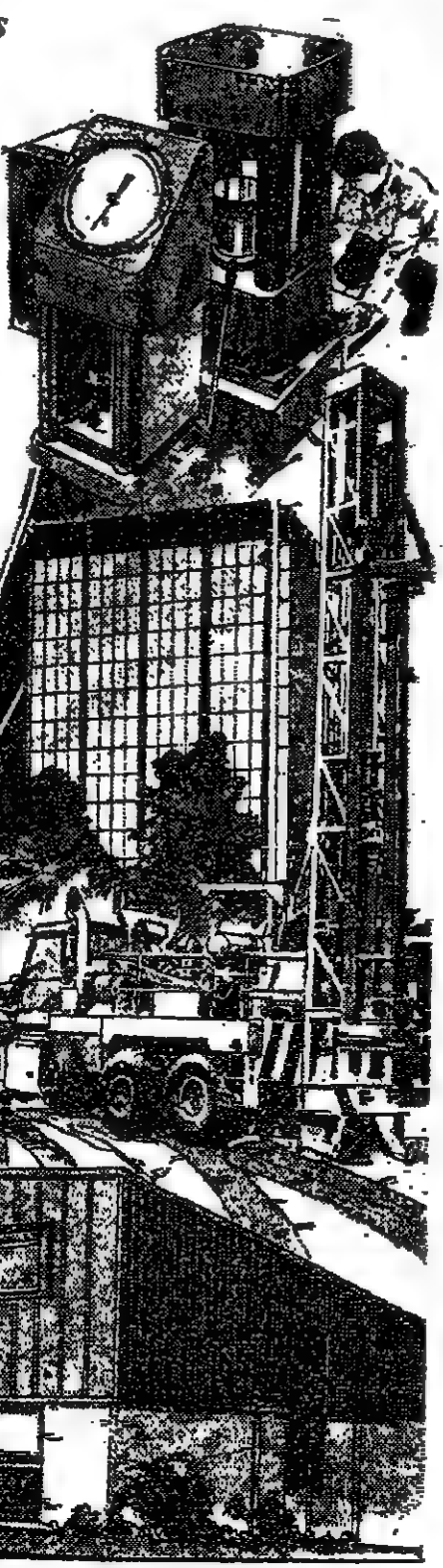
Good prospects for the construction laboratory company.

The Company has a strong balance sheet and a forward order book of £206 million. On present expectations results in 1980 will be broadly in line with 1979.

Summary of Results	1979	1978
	£m	£m
Group Turnover	190.2	163.7
Group Profit before Taxation	5.7	5.9
Group Profit after Taxation	3.9	4.4
Dividends	1.3	1.1

Earnings per Share	25.0p	27.9p
Shareholders' Funds per Share	213.9p	160.3p
Net Assets	£37.5m	£26.8m

Copies of the Annual Report, containing the Chairman's Statement in full, are obtainable from The Secretary, Westgate House, Ealing Road, Brentford, Middlesex. The Annual General Meeting will be held on 2nd July, 1980.



BRITISH HOME STORE

Highlights from the Statement by the Chairman, Sir Jack Callaghan

■ Increased merchandise sales volume

■ Improved pre-tax profit margin on sales excluding VAT

■ Eight new stores opened — new jobs in many areas

■ Major investment programme to maintain growth through 198

■ Increased dividend provides sound base for progressive distribution policy

BHS

	52 weeks to 23rd March 1980	52 weeks to 31st March 1979
Sales (inclusive of VAT)		
Merchandise	314,932	247,185
Food	58,460	58,650
Restaurant	22,963	18,157
Total	401,255	324,192
Sales (exclusive of VAT)	366,346	307,324
Profit before taxation	41,829	33,578
Profit after taxation	30,761	22,609
Dividend per ordinary share	8.75p	7.0p
Earnings per ordinary share	30.0p	22.1p

BRITISH HOME STORE

هكذا من الأصل

David Hewson

Appointments Vacant also on page 25

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

King's College London FACULTY OF EDUCATION LECTURESHIP IN EDUCATION

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Faculty of Education, King's College London, for the post of Lecturer in Education. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of Education to students on the B.A. (Hons) Education course. The post is full-time, with a salary of £10,000 per annum, plus pension and other benefits. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, King's College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS, by 15th June 1980. Closing date 15th June 1980. Reference 70/2.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Chemistry. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of Chemistry to students on the B.Sc. (Hons) Chemistry course. The post is full-time, with a salary of £10,000 per annum, plus pension and other benefits. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, by 15th June 1980. Closing date 15th June 1980. Reference 70/2.

University College Cardiff DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Physics. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of Physics to students on the B.Sc. (Hons) Physics course. The post is full-time, with a salary of £10,000 per annum, plus pension and other benefits. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University College Cardiff, Cardiff, by 15th June 1980. Closing date 15th June 1980. Reference 70/2.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Mathematics. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of Mathematics to students on the B.Sc. (Hons) Mathematics course. The post is full-time, with a salary of £10,000 per annum, plus pension and other benefits. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of London, London, by 15th June 1980. Closing date 15th June 1980. Reference 70/2.

The University of Lancaster DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Physics. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of Physics to students on the B.Sc. (Hons) Physics course. The post is full-time, with a salary of £10,000 per annum, plus pension and other benefits. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Lancaster, Lancaster, by 15th June 1980. Closing date 15th June 1980. Reference 70/2.

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE IN PHYSICS

Applications are invited for the post of Research Associate in Physics. The successful candidate will be responsible for research in the field of Physics. The post is full-time, with a salary of £10,000 per annum, plus pension and other benefits. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Lancaster, Lancaster, by 15th June 1980. Closing date 15th June 1980. Reference 70/2.

The University of Leeds DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

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Royal College of Art CHAIR OF FILM AND TELEVISION

Applications are invited for the post of Chair of Film and Television. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of Film and Television to students on the B.Sc. (Hons) Film and Television course. The post is full-time, with a salary of £10,000 per annum, plus pension and other benefits. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, Royal College of Art, London, by 15th June 1980. Closing date 15th June 1980. Reference 70/2.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

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Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Psychiatry. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of Psychiatry to students on the B.Sc. (Hons) Psychiatry course. The post is full-time, with a salary of £10,000 per annum, plus pension and other benefits. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, University of Leeds, Leeds, by 15th June 1980. Closing date 15th June 1980. Reference 70/2.

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LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT 1980

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FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Equities upset by revised forecast for ICI

The market tone maintained in the first half of the week faded yesterday after a strong opening. The initial optimism was helped by the previous night's closing strength of Wall Street which finished 14.25 better at 858.02.

The first surprise and setback for the London market was Land Securities' unexpected announcement of a £108m rights issue, the biggest so far this year. Dealers were worried by the big discount on the share price and it fell 25p to 310p after the announcement.

The next week shock in equities was broker Reddick's warning, Crumbar's sharp downward revision of its estimate for ICI. Although Reddick was not recommending sales, the £500m forecast was reduced to about £450m and the share price fell 14p during the day, although it closed only 10p off at 254p.

Gilt reacted less noticeably to the Bank of England's announcement of a new £100m sale and repurchase agreement for Government stocks, and cancelling the recall of special deposits due next Monday. Longs and shorts remained firm, but there was little interest in the new medium

Latest results

Electronic Rentals' results slip

By Our Financial Staff
Soaring interest charges and exceptional costs incurred in the process of integrating British Relay Wireless depressed Electronic Rentals' profits from £14.7m to £12.2m before tax in the year to March 31. The shares slipped 4p yesterday to 90p.

However, the total dividend has been increased by 21 per cent to 65p as forecast in December 1978 when BRW was bought.

Interest charges more than doubled from £5.19m to £12.7m. Exceptional rationalisation costs relating to BRW, which is taking longer than expected to integrate, were £3.73m compared with £3.45m.

At the grading level, however, profits before interest and exceptional items rose by 23 per cent to £28.6m on turnover up by 39 per cent to £172m. United Kingdom rental turnover rose by 42 per cent to £112m and profits by 18 per cent to £23.99m, while overseas rental turnover was 64 per cent up to £18m and profits by 17 per cent to £2.73m.

Going gets tough for Hickson

By Our Financial Staff
Chemicals and timber products group Hickson & Welch's 4.4m pre-tax profit for the half-year to March 31 effectively represents a £400,000 decline, if £1m cost of the January 1979 raw materials strike is added back into the previous year's £3.8m interim profit before tax. According to Dr Thomas Harrington, the chairman, "It will be difficult to show an improvement on last year's 1978 pre-tax profits of £52,000 in £3.06m."

The interim dividend payment is unchanged at 3.57p gross. British chemical companies are suffering from dull markets, and Dr Harrington says this has offset the better-than-expected results from the group's overseas companies so far this year. High energy costs, particularly since industrial gas prices rose, are making life harder for Hickson.

After interest costs of £771,000, up from £430,000, the pre-tax profit includes investment and other income of £188,000—12 per cent up—and associated company profits of £79,000, down from £95,000.

Anglo American Investment Trust Limited (Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)
PREFERENCE DIVIDEND
Dividend No. 51 of three pence per share for the year ended 30th June 1980, has been declared payable to holders of the six per cent cumulative preference shares who are registered in the books of the company at the close of business on June 20, 1980.

Hotel Company, Istanbul
This has been a difficult year for our Hotel Company. Although their lease still had about seven years to run, the Intercontinental Hotel Group unilaterally terminated it in July, 1979, at a time when the hotel in Istanbul was closed by a strike. This action has been referred to international arbitration so that no more should be said now.

Societe Nouvelle de la Banque de Syrie et du Liban
In 1979, with a view to developing the business of Societe Nouvelle de la Banque de Syrie et du Liban, we and Paribas sold to a first class Lebanese group an equal number of shares amounting in all to just under one third of the capital.

Bank of Teheran
Turning to the Bank of Teheran, you are no doubt aware that last year the government of Iran decided to nationalise all banks operating in that country. We have, of course, submitted a claim for compensation to the authorities.

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APPOINTMENTS

Zambia to spend £86m on boosting cobalt output

By Ruth Weiss and Michael Press
Zambia, one of the world's biggest copper producers, is to spend £86m over the next five years on refinery capacity to increase its cobalt output from about 13,700 tonnes a year to 10,000 tonnes. The development is partly possible because Zambia's cobalt grades are rising sharply, and will offset poor earnings from copper.

The refinery will be built at Kitale on the copper belt. In the first phase, £55m will be spent on raising capacity by 2,600 tonnes a year in 1982. Another £21m is to be spent on increasing capacity to 5,000 tonnes a year by 1985.

Mr Francis Kaunda, chairman of Zambia Engineering Services, a newly formed British company wholly owned by Nchanga Consolidated

Copper Mines, said yesterday that once the plant was finished it would place Zambia "neck and neck" with Zaire as the world's leading cobalt producer.

Cobalt is a vital and rare strategic mineral, used in highly technology industries such as aerospace, and oil refining, and is valuable for colouring and magnets. Total world cobalt production is estimated to be 24,000 tonnes a year. Rising demand has recently pushed the price up to £25,000 a tonne.

Arrangements with ZES are expected to secure BBR's cobalt supplies, the company's managing director, Mr George Bolton, said. Zaire, which until recently produced 65 per cent of the world's cobalt, is widely regarded in the market as an unstable supplier.

Dealers said last night the possibility of a cobalt shortage, largely because of demand from manufacturers of aircraft engines, was tempting some countries to consider stockpiles.

But, demand apart, Zambia's plans have also been made possible by an increase in the average grade of mined cobalt from 0.1 per cent to nearer 0.4 per cent. In some places the ore has reached 1 per cent. So although in 1977-8 cobalt contributed only 15m to NCCM's earnings, it is estimated to generate up to £32m this year.

The new cobalt plant is to be built at the Rhokana division of NCCM. The company's existing plant produces about 1,200 tonnes a year. The remainder is produced by Zambia's other major copper company, Roan Consolidated Mines. Both are state-controlled.

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Canadian hint by Owen Owen

By Our Financial Staff
At yesterday's annual meeting at Owen Owen Mr John Norman, chairman, reiterated that the group now has the option to buy out the Hudson's Bay Company's stake in their joint Canadian stores company, G. W. Robinson but refused to elaborate on his remarks that "there are obviously other possibilities outside those formally incorporated in the agreement".

This agreement provides that a change in the effective ownership of either partner means it must offer its stake to the other partner. The Hudson's Bay Company has 27 per cent of the common stock of G. W. Robinson and 100 per cent of the preference shares. Effective ownership of Hudson's Bay changed last year when two Thomson companies bought 75 per cent of its equity.

Fierce competition in a tight market for kitchen equipment and furniture, particularly in the cheaper ranges, combined with the engineering strike made a disastrous first half for Lancashire group Burco Dean.

Though turnover rose from £14.1m to £15.6m, the results collapsed from a £753,000 profit in March 1979 to a £370,000 loss this March. There is no interim dividend. The group does not expect to return to profits in time for the August year-end; but it will consider whether to pay a final dividend in the light of the company's performance by December.

The loss came entirely from the appliances division, where margins were pared to unprofitable levels in the attempt to keep going. Tumble driers were the main problem. Burco Dean is in the midst of a rigorous re-organization, closing two factories and making 300 people redundant. All production will be at one factory at Burnley by July, and will concentrate on built-in cookers and the buoyant caravan cooker market.

The "substantial" costs—probably around £250,000—will be offset in part by the sale of the land and factories; but Mr Derek Isherwood, the chief executive, warns that there may well be a time lag between realizing the costs and the properties.

Thomas Eastham, the kitchen furniture manufacturer made a small profit but has now succumbed to the industry's problems and will be working a 4-day week until new medium-priced, wooden framed lines come out in mid-July.

Competition in the cheaper lines is now too "cut-throat".

By Our Financial Staff
Despite an uncertain start to the year, first-quarter figures from engineering group Morgan Crucible reveal a healthy increase in profits.

At the pre-tax level for the three months to March 30, they have risen from £2,870m to £3.3m. This was on the back of an increase in turnover from £26.4m to £32.4m making a trading profit of £4m against £3.5m which reduced trading margins from 13.2 to 12.5 per cent.

Mr Ian Weston Smith, chairman, reports that apart from the steel strike, trading was affected by the currency shortage in Eastern European countries. Other problems included the downturn in the automotive and consumer sectors in both the United Kingdom and the United States.

Good start by Morgan Crucible

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Mr William Fullerton, its new chairman and chief executive, told shareholders that following the company's re-organization, the improvement in trading is continuing and second-half figures should be better.

For the opening half-year, pretax losses at Brentnall were cut from £607,000 to £335,000 and the figures would have been £68,000 better had the group not provided for an outstanding debt several years old, where recovery is thought unlikely.

Following a £40,000 tax recovery, against £209,000 claw-back the same time last year, the loss to shareholders comes down from £508,000 to £295,000. The group is once again passing the interim dividend.

Mr Fullerton says the group's financial position has not been helped by the "soft conditions" prevailing in the world insurance market.

In addition, the continued unwelcome publicity surrounding the affairs of Lloyds Syndicate 762 has hindered the development of new business," he said.

Wimpey: Despite a record order book, Mr R. H. Smith, chairman, said it would be imprudent to anticipate the 1980 results, because of high inflation, interest costs and the general business outlook in the United Kingdom.

Smith & Nephew Associated: company reports that during month of May, applications were received for conversion of £1.753m of 8 per cent convertible stock. Board does not intend to exercise right to compulsory convert remaining stock during July 1980.

Competition forces Burco Dean into loss

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First-half deficit cut by Brentnall Beard

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Guthrie Corporation

Mr. Mark Gent, OBE, reports another record year

Ontario, for Highway Trailers; and in Scarborough, Ontario, for Trench Electric. Butler Polymer has opened a research and development centre in Detroit and is at an advanced stage of preparation for a new factory in North Carolina.

In spite of the heavy costs of establishing these new operations, the results from North America are much improved, with operating profit higher by nearly 70% at \$5.9 million.

Particular reference should be made to the results of Ajax Magnethermic, which recovered well from the effects of the long strike of the previous year, and of Trench Electric, whose international reputation and profit contribution grew apace.

Highway Trailers, having previously concentrated on road vehicles, has substantially broadened its base by winning a major contract for rail containers and container chassis from Canadian Pacific Railways.

The troubles which have beset the carpet industry in the last two years have been so well aired that it is unnecessary to dwell at length on this sector of the business.

Imports of American carpets and carpet yarns, resulting primarily from artificially high rates of sterling, have created a crisis for the UK industry and dramatic changes in its structure will be necessary if it is not to face progressive disintegration.

Well-known brand names, many of which were previously successful, have disappeared in recent months as liquidations and major redundancy programmes have escalated.

The results from our own carpet operations were disappointing but Woodward Grosvenor, the Kidderminster-based subsidiary of British Carpets which manufactures high-quality "Grosvenor squares" and Axminster carpets, progressed and in 1979 produced a very satisfactory return on capital employed.

It became apparent during the year that the decline in the use of resin rubber boxes for batteries was accelerating as alternative materials took over. This had a particularly detrimental effect on Ebonite Containers and since the end of the year we have sold the assets of the company to a battery manufacturer.

Guthrie Trading had an indifferent year, mainly resulting from the difficult conditions in trading with Nigeria. Efforts to broaden the geographical areas of trading, in order to reduce the effects of adverse economic conditions in a single territory, continued. Middle Eastern trade increased as Guthrie Galadadi developed, and the Corporation has taken an equity stake in Booker Merchants International, which is strong in the Caribbean.

Reference was made in the interim report to the effect on the textile industry, in a high wage-cost area, such as Australia, of changes in import controls.

Palm Beach Towel, which has been the mainstay of the Corporation's Australian profits for several years, has increasingly suffered from duty-free imports of so-called Indian handkerchief towels and margins have been eroded in consequence.

Other operations have shown some improvement, however, and with the cessation of manufacture of latex thread in Victoria, have recorded a modest increase in operating profit.

Africa and the Middle East

The peaceful settlement of the conflict in Zimbabwe has enabled the Board to incorporate results from its subsidiary, Guthrie & Co., and its associate Karina Textiles.

Results from Africa and the Middle East were depressed in 1979 by very poor trading conditions in Nigeria, as the country prepared for an election and the return to civilian rule.

Future Prospects

In the turbulent economic and political climate of today, no Chairman can address the future prospects of his company with equanimity.

The Corporation's year has started satisfactorily. Although the worldwide recession is beginning to bite deeply in the United States, particularly in the automobile industry, levels of profitability to date are on budget for our North American operations.

In South East Asia, too, the first few months have been encouraging. Recent weakness in the prices of palm oil and rubber has been ameliorated by judicious forward selling, and prospects for the year remain satisfactory.

Most other Regions are showing a modest improvement for the trading period to date, though the UK is still suffering from a weak home economy and the effect of the strength of sterling on overseas trade.

The second half of the year, and probably the first half of 1981, is likely to be more difficult for certain of our operations.

On the basis of present exchange rates, the value of overseas operating profits in sterling terms would also be adversely affected, as it was in 1979.

Overall, the Corporation is in good heart. Many of the rewards for developments in sectors of business where we have a proven record of success are still to mature. We can continue, therefore, to face the future, of an independent Guthrie Corporation with considerable confidence.

Guthrie Corporation

Mr. Mark Gent, OBE, reports another record year

Preliminary results for year to 31 December 1979		
	1979 £000	1978 £000
Operating Profit—		
South East Asia	25,940	20,540
North America	5,883	3,468
Europe	295	179
Australia	421	297
Africa and Middle East	278	978
	32,817	25,462
Interest	5,313	4,565
Profit before taxation	27,504	20,897
Assets attributable to ordinary shareholders	207,525	174,174
Earnings per ordinary share	38.5p	31.0p

It is with considerable pleasure that I can report that the Corporation has had another successful year.

Profit before taxation has set a new record and in consequence it has been possible for the Board to recommend a further substantial increase in the total dividend for the year.

Results for 1979

Profit before taxation was £27.5 million in 1979, nearly 32% higher than the £20.9 million returned for 1978. Earnings per ordinary share were 38.5p per share (1978: 31.0p per share).

If overseas profits had been translated at exchange rates ruling on 31 January 1979, to compare with the forecast then made, the Corporation's profit before taxation would have exceeded £30 million.

Dividend

An interim dividend of 9p per share was paid on 2 April 1980. The final dividend recommended for 1979 is 21p per share.

The total dividend for the year of 30p per share compares with 10p for 1976, 15p for 1977 and 21p for 1978.

Taxation

The overall taxation charge includes £1.9 million of unrelieved Advance Corporation Tax.

City and International Trust

The acquisition of City and International Trust Limited was completed satisfactorily, in spite of attempts by certain Eastern shareholders to frustrate it.

The Board was grateful for the continuing expressions of support and confidence which came from the overwhelming majority of independent shareholders.

Realisation of the Trust's investment portfolio has raised cash in excess of £18 million. It was expertly handled by joint UK brokers, Fielding Newson-Smith and de Zoete & Bevan, and by Goldman Sachs in the United States.

Sime Darby

As I said at the recent Extraordinary General Meeting, your Board continues to believe that acquisition of Guthrie by Sime Darby would not be in the interests of the Corporation or its employees.

Staff

Again, I have to extend our grateful thanks to every member of the staff round the world, whose loyalty and devotion has been remarkable.

The results reflect great credit on the operating managers, who achieved the forecast profits.

Directors

Directors' fees of £4,000 per annum, payable in full only to non-executive directors, have been unchanged since 1974. During the period the cost of living has more than doubled and the dividend to shareholders has almost trebled. The increase to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting, of £1,000 per annum, which will cost the Corporation £5,000 in a full year, is modest by comparison.

In recent years, the Corporation has adopted a policy of broadly balancing the numbers of executive and non-executive directors. This statement is an opportunity for me to pay tribute to Mr. Patrick Collings, Sir Peter Gadsden, Mr. John Gullick, Mr. John Hogg and Sir Ernest Woodroffe for the very considerable contribution they have made to the Corporation. They are seldom in the limelight, but the time and effort which they put at the disposal of the executive is substantial and invaluable. Sir Ernest Woodroffe and Mr. Hogg are also members of the Audit Committee.

I should pay particular tribute to Sir Peter Gadsden GBE, since this is the year in which he serves as Lord Mayor of London. It is a matter of considerable pleasure that the Corporation can share in his achievement.

South East Asia

Plantations

Total palm crops increased as a result both of higher mature acreage and a further significant improvement in yields per acre as our new planting material becomes productive. The Corporation's plantation activities have still to benefit fully from new acreages of oil palm and the increased productivity which is associated with replanting.

Although the acreage of rubber was reduced as the policy of replanting primarily to oil palms continued, improved yields stabilised rubber output.

Prices achieved were better than in 1978 and, together with higher yields, excellent production efficiencies and strong and effective management, resulted in increased profits from the plantation activities.

Guthrie Ropel now owns 56,800 acres of planted land, about one-third of the Corporation's total acreage. In accordance with our agreed policy of Malaysiaisation, 40% of the equity of Guthrie Ropel is owned by local investors. The company, quoted on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange, reported an increase in profit before taxation from M\$19.2 million in 1978 to M\$28.9 million in 1979.

During 1979 there has been a continued and rapid escalation in the value of estate land in Malaysia. Your Board therefore considered it appropriate to commission C. H. Williams, Talhar & Wong Sdn, the leading Kuala Lumpur valuers who were responsible for the previous valuation, to produce an updated valuation of our plantation assets. The result, an increase of approximately 36%, is included in the Corporation's consolidated balance sheet at 31 December 1979.

I would like to draw special attention to activities in the plantation sector outside Malaysia, which are becoming increasingly important.

One major development, a joint venture in the Philippines, has recently been announced. In partnership with the National Development Corporation of the Philippines, we are developing 20,000 acres of oil palms at Agusan in Mindanao, the first external plantation group to be accepted as an investor in the territory.

Other similar developments are at an advanced stage of negotiation.

Guthrie International Plantation Services ("GIPS") is also advising on rubber and oil palm development in Sabah, Indonesia, Nigeria, Liberia, Ghana, Colombia and Ecuador, a total of over 250,000 acres.

In the four years since it was decided to make the wealth of Guthrie plantation expertise available to other territories, GIPS has become one of the world's leading plantation consultancy services.

Guthrie Berhad

A further substantial improvement took place in 1979 in virtually all aspects of Guthrie Berhad's business and the company reported an increase in profit before taxation to \$510.7 million (1978: \$55.6 million).

Possibly the most significant event has been the Malaysiaisation of the agricultural fertiliser interests within Peladang Kimia, in which Guthrie Berhad now has 30% of the equity. Peladang Kimia is proving to be a very successful operation.

It is also satisfying that our other joint ventures in Malaysia had a successful year and that relationships with our local partners are excellent.

Guthrie Berhad was made to feel particularly vulnerable in the early months of 1979, since many trading principals made it clear that a change of ownership of the Corporation would lead to a dramatic loss of agencies. In the circumstances, it is a tribute to the management that the status of Guthrie Berhad has never been higher.

North America

Three entirely new manufacturing facilities, totalling over 200,000 sq. ft., were established during 1979 for the North American activities—in Winterville, North Carolina, for Ajax Magnethermic; in Mississauga,

The Annual Report and Accounts will be posted to shareholders on 13 June.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in London on 9 July 1980.

The Guthrie Corporation Limited, 120 Fenchurch St., London EC3M 5AA

IGH INTERESTS LIMITED

A record year

Turnover up £6.8m — 47%
Pre-tax profits up £437,000 — 66%

	1979/80 £'000	1978/79 £'000
Turnover	21,202	14,402
Pre-tax profits after exceptional items and before charging associated companies	1,300	840
Associated companies	(198)	(175)
Profit before tax	1,102	665
Profit after tax	802	558
Dividends per share paid and proposed	5.0p 38p	4.35p 32p
Earnings per share	10.6p	8.0p
Total assets per share	101p	90p

STOCK ISSUE

the year end, a successful issue of £2.5m 10% Convertible Unsecured Stock 1984/85 was made, which provides funds for the continued expansion business.

spite depressing economic forecasts, it is our firm intention to keep on growing, overcome planning delays, develop new processes and increase the geographical spread of our activities."

Joan Agar Chairman

IGH INTERESTS LIMITED

is in environmental activities, including waste treatment disposal, industrial cleaning, product reclamation, land reclamation, and the development of pollutant-free products, vehicle dealers, quarriers and fuel contractors

100 Road • Brownhills • Walsall • West Midlands WS8 7BB

FINANCIAL NEWS

Leigh Interests beats its forecast with £1.1m

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Leigh Interests, the Black Country waste disposal experts, raised profits by two-thirds to £1.1m before tax in the year to March 31, beating the 51m forecast made just before the year end when Leigh raised £2.5m with an issue of convertible loan stock.

As forecast, the final dividend is 4.81p gross leaving the year's total up by 13 per cent at 7.14p. At the net level the dividend was covered just over twice by earnings of 10.6p a share compared with 8.0p in 1978-79.

Leigh's waste disposal activities contributed a larger share

of profits in 1979-80, accounting for 80 per cent of the group total. This division was also responsible for £4.2m of the £5.3m increase in group turnover to £21.2m.

The two wholly-owned Seal-safe liquid waste processing plants in the West Midlands operated profitably, and Leigh is now building a third plant in Yorkshire. However, Mrs Joan Agar, chairman, warns that the downturn in industrial activity was beginning to affect business in the final quarter of the year. The Seal-safe plants jointly owned with Tunnel Holdings was short of work and

made a loss, though smaller than the previous year. Leigh's other activities produced improved profits from the Ford motor dealership, which has now been moved to a site in Perry Barr. Higher profits from the building supplies companies were largely cancelled out by losses from the extracting business, where management has been changed. After spending £2.6m on waste disposal sites and processing plant, Leigh ended the year with borrowings equal to 14 per cent of shareholders' funds, excluding the cash raised from the convertible issue.

Shares rise as Pegler results cheer market

By Peter Wilson-Smith

After seeing profits fall by a quarter in the first half, Pegler-Hatterley's results cheered the market. The company's full-year profits of £1.78m, lower at £1.24m before tax, were a surprise. The outcome was at the top end of market expectations, and combined with a small increase in the final dividend to put the total up by 6 per cent to 13.6p gross, was enough to push the shares 11p higher to 111p.

However, the outlook for the current year is uncertain. Pegler says it is impossible to forecast, but order intake has slackened appreciably since April. The group has also recently announced redundancies in its building products division, one of the few areas to increase profits in 1979-80—where a fifth of the workforce at Pegler's Doncaster will lose their jobs. There are also believed to be plans for redundancies in other parts of the group.

In contrast to many manufacturing companies, Pegler-Hatterley enters the recession with a strong balance sheet. Despite capital spending of £4.7m in 1979-80 the cash outflow was held to less than £3m and year-end net debt was a negligible £1.2m, or 6.5 per cent of shareholders' funds. Last year's downturn in profits was partly accounted for by the engineering strike and by the rise in interest charges from £136,000 to £156,000. The main influence here was the downturn to a small trading loss from the valve division which exports about two-fifths of sales and has suffered from the strong pound. Particularly hard hit was the stainless steel valve side selling to the process plant and petrochemical industries where competition is fierce.

The building products division increased profits and so did the merchandising division which was also the only part of the group to increase volume sales. For the group as a whole, turnover rose from £98.8m to £109.95m. The downturn in trading profits was partly offset by higher profits from associated companies which had a very strong second half. The main impetus behind this increase from £4.5m to £4.94m was the South African company, Consolidated Brassfoundry Holdings, in which Pegler has a 38 per cent stake. Selling plumbings and engineers' fittings, it has done well in a booming South African economy.

The group sees more scope for growth now in the curing tool side, and especially in mining tools, than in machine tools, which now provide over half its turnover. The outlook is healthy. Interim pre-tax profits to March 31 were £320,000 against £212,000, in spite of the engineering and steel strikes. Turnover rose from £3.26m to £5.27m.

Interest costs rose substantially to £107,000 compared to £45,000 a year earlier. The interim dividend has gone up a fifth, at 2.07p gross, suggesting a prospective yield for the year of 9.5 per cent with the shares now at 52p.

Brooke Tool prepared for boom in the US

The serious fire at Brooke Tool's Boxford Machine Tools factory in May, 1979, has proved not to be such a disaster, but the board says, more a "blessing in disguise". The rebuilt factory has been laid out to facilitate production of a major new product to be launched in January.

Boxford makes lathes for educational and training use. The new product will also have industrial applications. Brooke Tool has spent about £300,000 on top of the insurance money on the new factory.

Demand for educational and other machine tools is booming in the United States, where the market is still very fragmented. Brooke Tool has just set up a new operation to distribute its products nationally from a New England base. A profit contribution is expected by the September, 1981, year-end.

Back in Britain, Mr David Saunders, the chairman, says the group has just had "a magnificent last ten days" of orders, that include orders for four large lathes from a "very solid" British intermediary for clients in Libya, Iraq and Egypt.

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SUMMARY BALANCE OF PAYMENTS									
	1978	1979	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Visible trade (balance)	-1483	-3312	-1588	-498	-498	-745	-723		
Invisible (balance)	+3845	+3274	+746	+758	+882	+676	+872		
Services	+823	+153	+225	+55	+172	+188	+8		
Interest, profits and dividends	-1911	-2434	-953	-974	-954	-933	-558		
Transfers	+228	+983	+128	+139	+410	+34	+306		
Total	+784	-2519	-1168	-587	-58	-717	-417		
Current balance	+784	-2519	-1168	-587	-58	-717	-417		
Current balance	+784	-2519	-1168	-587	-58	-717	-417		
Investment and other capital transactions	-2897	+1778	+880	+918	+432	-122	+105		
Balance for official financing	-1128	+1711	+685	+758	+246	-30	+288		
Allocation of SDR's Official financing	-	+195	+185	-	-	-	-186		
Official financing (drawings on, +; additions to, -)	-2223	-1088	-953	-974	-954	-933	-558		
Other official financing	-1203	-847	+75	-690	-148	-85	-232		

For and on behalf of ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED

J. C. Greenfield London Office, 40 Holborn Viaduct, EC1P 1AJ.

5th June, 1980

Note: The Company has been requested by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to state:

Under the double tax agreement between the United Kingdom and the Republic of South Africa, the South African non-resident shareholders' tax payable in respect of the dividend is allowable as a credit against the United Kingdom tax payable in respect of the dividend. The deduction of tax at the reduced rate of 15.31% instead of the basic rate of 30% represents an allowance of credit at the rate of 15.31%.

ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF ORDINARY SHARE WARRANTS TO REDEEM PAYMENT OF COUPON NO. 53

With reference to the notice of declaration of dividend advertised in the press on 3rd June, 1980, the following information is published for the guidance of holders of share warrants to bearer.

The dividend of 50 cents per share was declared in South African currency. South African non-resident shareholders' tax at 5.842 cents per share will be deducted from the dividend payable in respect of all share warrant coupons leaving a net dividend of 43.158 cents per share.

The dividend on bearer shares will be paid on or after 25th July, 1980 against surrender of coupon No. 53 detached from share warrants to bearer as under:

- (a) At the offices of the following continental paying agents:
- Credit du Nord, 6-8 Boulevard Hausmann, 75009 Paris.
 - Banque Bruxelles Lambert, 2 rue de la Regence, 1000 Brussels.
 - Société Générale de Banque, 3 Montagne du Parc, 1000 Brussels.
 - Swiss Bank Corporation, 1 Aeschenvorstadt, Basle 4002.
 - Banque Internationale a Luxembourg S.A., 2 Boulevard Royal, Luxembourg.
 - Union Bank of Switzerland, Bahnhofstrasse 45, Zurich.

Payments in respect of coupons lodged at the office of a Continental paying agent will be made in South African currency to an authorised dealer in exchange for the Continental paying agent's receipt. The Continental paying agent's receipt will be presented to the Continental paying agent in exchange for the dividend payable in respect of the coupons. The payment so made can only be given to such authorised dealer by the Continental paying agent concerned.

- (b) At the London Bearer Reception Office of Charter Consolidated Limited, 40 Holborn Viaduct, EC1P 1AJ. Unless persons depositing coupons at such office request payment in rand to an address in the Republic of South Africa, payment will be made in United Kingdom currency as follows:
- (i) in respect of coupons lodged prior to 11th July, 1980 at the United Kingdom currency equivalent of the rand currency value of their dividend on 13th July, 1980 or;
 - (ii) in respect of coupons lodged during the period 11th July, 1980 to 16th July, 1980 both days inclusive at the United Kingdom currency equivalent of the rand currency value of their dividend on 21st July, 1980 or;
 - (iii) in respect of coupons lodged on or after 17th July, 1980 at the prevailing rate of exchange on the day the proceeds are required, through an authorised dealer in exchange in Johannesburg to the London Bearer Reception Office.

Coupons must be left for at least four clear days for examination and may be presented any weekday (Saturday excepted) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

United Kingdom income tax will be deducted from payments to any person in the United Kingdom in respect of coupons deposited at the London Bearer Reception Office, unless such coupons are accompanied by Inland Revenue non-residence declaration forms. Where such declaration is made, the net amount of the dividend will be the United Kingdom currency equivalent of 35 cents per share in terms of sub-paragraph (i) above arrived at as under:

	South African Currency Cents Per Share
Amount of dividend declared	50.00
Less: South African non-resident Shareholders' tax at 15.842%	6.842
	43.158
Less: U.K. income tax at 15.31% on the gross amount of the dividend of 50 cents	5.158
	35.00

For and on behalf of ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED

J. C. Greenfield London Office, 40 Holborn Viaduct, EC1P 1AJ.

5th June, 1980

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Getty Oil bids for ERC

International

The spokesman said Getty plans to devote 70 to 75 per cent of future capital expenditures on petroleum activities even with the acquisition of ERC.

ERC's 1979 net income of \$47.5m represented under 8 per cent of Getty's total 1979 net profits of \$604.4m.

ERC's revenues last year totalled about \$536m while Getty's revenues were \$5.12bn.

Getty said it anticipates the tender offer will be effective about June 11, after a filing with the securities and Exchange Commission.

The transaction is subject to approval.

Avon expects dip in profit

Avon Products of New York says it expects lower 1980 second quarter earnings. This is because of a decline in United States sales and the negative impact from foreign currency fluctuations. Higher total sales for the period are expected.

Avon in the year ago second quarter earned \$55.6m (about £26m) on sales of \$566.5m.

The company said May sales figures of cosmetics, fragrances and fashion jewellery sold through its person-to-person distribution system in the United States were below expectations and United States sales for the second quarter will be lower than in the year ago period.

Avon said, however, it was encouraged by the performance of its overseas business, which is showing strong sales gains compared with last year.

Avon's full-scale entry into the insurance business, although it was involved in a small casualty

premium income last year of over 2bn.

Revenues of other activities totalled \$39m and profits in this sector remain under pressure because of high interest rates, Ennia said.

The company said it maintains earlier expectations of higher profits and earnings per share this year, on capital increased by about 12 per cent.

Net profit in 1979 was \$159.7m and earnings per share \$125.97.

Ennia took up \$176m of long-term loans in the quarter.

Diamond move over merger

Diamond International Corporation of America says it is holding certain preliminary discussions seeking to end its takeover battle with Cavenham Development, a subsidiary of Cavenham Limited.

The company's statement was contained in an amendment to its schedule 14-D-9 with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The company stated: "No negotiation is being undertaken, nor is underway by Diamond in response to the tender offer by Cavenham

representatives of Diamond are having certain preliminary discussions which might result in a tender offer by another company, financing for a tender offer by Diamond or a standstill arrangement with Cavenham Development and its affiliates."

The company also said that certain preliminary discussions of the merger had been terminated, which might have resulted in the issue of securities by Diamond.

Attorneys for Diamond International refused further comment.

The board comments that because of the seasonal nature of some of the group's activities, the results for the first half-year are not necessarily indicative of the full year's results. It is too early to make a forecast.

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Interest charges Wigfall results

By Michael Clark

High borrowing costs of recent years, by the latest preliminary report from Henry V.

Pretax profits in 1979, however, were \$5.12bn. Getty said it anticipates the tender offer will be effective about June 11, after a filing with the securities and Exchange Commission.

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[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

Equities drift

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, June 2. Dealings end, June 13. Closures, June 16. Settlement day, June 23.
 \$ Forward margins are permitted on two previous days



1979/80	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	1979/80	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	1979/80	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield	1979/80	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield
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Appointments Vacant also on page 20.

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Investment analyst required for major fund based in London with an extensive U.S. portfolio.

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General Manager

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European Democratic Group,

European Parliament,

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Motoring

The motorists' friend and champion

The Seventy-fifth anniversary of the Automobile Association has been marked by the publication of a typically large and attractively produced official history which reminds us that the association plays, and has always played, two separate roles.

On the one hand it provides services to members in return for an annual subscription, advising on routes and traffic conditions, appointing garages, dealing with roadside breakdowns. On the other, it acts as a motorists' pressure group, never shy to add its voice to public controversies.

That duality was implicit in the formation of the AA in 1905. It was largely set up to provide patrols that could give warnings to motorists of the police speed traps that were so outpacing the car driving fraternity. In one way or another motorists have felt themselves persecuted ever since, and the AA has been a willing champion.

Whenever the Chancellor of the Exchequer increases car tax, or petrol duty, the AA is there with its denunciation of yet another blow against the already battered motorist. Often, it must be said, such comments are offered more as a ritual than in the hope that they will change anything.

Indeed just how much notice is taken of the AA, which does, after all, have more than five million members, is hard to determine. The very size of the membership means that it cannot realistically be consulted. The dozen or so members who turn up for the annual meeting do not necessarily voice the opinions of the many who stay away.

So is the AA representative? How many of the five million support its (to my mind) courageous and correct advocacy of the compulsory wearing of seat belts? Short of sending out questionnaires, which would be prohibitively expensive, the answer can only be guessed. Yet unless the AA can claim to reflect the broad view of its members, what weight do its pronouncements carry?

That is one of the issues touched upon by Hugh Bart-King in his comprehensive *The AA: A History of the First 75 Years of the Automobile Association 1905-80*. As might be expected from a body once associated with the *Reader's Digest*, the book is weighty and generously illustrated, as it must be to justify a price of £14.95.

Although obviously limited by the need to set out the official record, Mr Bart-King is pleasantly readable and does not avoid such contentious issues as the AA's once



The Citroën CX Reflex—character, flair and a new engine.

feudal attitude to labour relations, its traditional secrecy on financial matters and the notorious self-perpetuating committee.

He also relates the development of the AA to the wider motoring context, showing how, around 1920, the association pioneered the roadside service station and played a big part in the development of a nationalising style. In charting the fortunes of the AA, he provides a social history of motoring.

One of the AA's most controversial decisions of recent years has been to enter commercial areas like book publishing, holidays and insurance. Critics say that is an unwarranted diversion from the central function of looking after the motorist: the AA reports that such activities make money and help to contain costs.

The most recent example of such enterprise is the *Book of British Villages* (£10.95) where, again the *Reader's Digest* influence is plain. The book is splendid to look at, with fine colour illustrations on almost every page, but written, apart from special contributions by John Arlott, Richard Adams, Professor W. G. Hoskins and others, in a pedestrian style. About 700 villages are described and if the books sells they could soon be choked with cars.

Test: Citroën CX Reflex

To drive a Citroën, and particularly the CX, is to enter a different world of motoring: one of character, flair and, some would say, eccentricity. The feel of the

suspension, steering and brakes immediately marks the Citroën out from the common run. Even in its details, the single windshield wiper, the "piano key" controls, the revolving drum instruments—a Citroën could be no other car.

About most cars it is possible to be neutral, unenthusiastic while recognizing that a steel box with wheels at each corner that travels faithfully from A to B is for most motorists, the heart of the matter. The Citroën aims much higher and inevitably provokes strong feelings: for some it is an engineering delight, for others a riot of gimmickry that can be expensive to maintain and repair.

This writer leans heavily towards the first view, though from the happy position of not having to pick up the bills. A Citroën proclaims that there can be more to designing a car than is apparent from a Corvair or a Marina or most Japanese vehicles and the proof is in the driving: cog *au vin* versus chicken and chips.

The Reflex is a significant development of the big CX car, dropping the venerable Citroën two-litre engine in favour of the modern, all-alloy overhead camshaft unit developed jointly by Peugeot and Renault. It comes to Citroën by courtesy of the merger with Peugeot, one of many current examples of how companies competing in the showroom are pooling resources to mutual advantage.

On all counts the new engine is an improvement, giving considerably better fuel economy, a useful boost to performance and quieter running. The original CX two-litre

was not the fleetest in its class and it would be wrong to pretend that the Renault/Peugeot engine has transformed the car. But acceleration is a little sharper, there is better pulling power and a higher maximum speed.

The impressive gain, however, is in economy. According to the government figures the car does four miles more to the gallon in town driving than its predecessor, and open road consumption is lower, too. My average, in mixed conditions, was a creditable 27 mpg. The five-speed version, the Athena, makes long distance cruising more economical still.

Otherwise the virtues of the CX are those that won it the Car of the Year award on its introduction six years ago. They start with the superb ride quality provided by the hydro-pneumatic self-leveling suspension; the ultra-responsive (some might find it too responsive) Varipower steering system, which manages to be acceptably light with only two and a half turns from lock to lock; and the all-disc brakes that react to the merest touch.

To the soft suspension are allied generously upholstered seats into which one sinks as into an armchair and there is plenty of legroom back and front, though a tall driver could find his head rather near the roof. The car can be criticized for an indifferent ventilation system, somewhat noisy gear change and, perhaps, for its sheer size (15ft 3in long), which makes it not the easiest of vehicles to park.

Enjoyment of any car must, in the last resort, be a matter of taste

and contrary to what there will be those who ride of the CX, damped, the bodyroll the seats too equal there are plenty of cars. Prices went up over the Reflex now cost the better equipped £6,875.

Quieter Minis

BL has belatedly set of the most persistent of the Mini by introducing sound deadening measures to reduce interior to seven decibels.

Few areas of the overlooked. There, bonded to the roof, headlining, both sides bulkhead have been even the front air has been treated so that engine noise. From areas are now covered men/champion and applied to the rear floor and back parcel.

Another change to 850 and 1000 models gallon fuel tank, as the Clubman. The capacity should now most heavy-footed 300 miles between fill.

Sir Alex. Ivison, Mini, is looking at the car who in production after the slightly bigger Metro in October.

Peter



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of Times Newspapers Limited,
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We make every effort to avoid
errors in advertisements. Each
one is carefully checked and
proof read. When thousands of
advertisements are handled
each day, mistakes do occur and
we ask therefore that you check
your ad and, if you spot an
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WHAT 0000 has now print done
is: What can we show for our
wealth and resources? All
these things have been done by
a shadow, like a messenger
bearing a message.

William W. A. (N.E.R.)

BIRTHS

DAWSON—On May 24th, to
Mrs. Dawson, a son, James
Dawson, and a daughter, Sarah
Dawson.

BATTE—On June 4th, 1980,
to Mrs. Batte, a son, James
Batte, and a daughter, Sarah
Batte.

BLAKE—On June 4th, 1980,
to Mrs. Blake, a son, James
Blake, and a daughter, Sarah
Blake.

DAWSON—On May 28th, to
Mrs. Dawson, a son, James
Dawson, and a daughter, Sarah
Dawson.

BLAKE—On June 4th, 1980,
to Mrs. Blake, a son, James
Blake, and a daughter, Sarah
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BLAKE—On June 4th, 1980,
to Mrs. Blake, a son, James
Blake, and a daughter, Sarah
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DEATHS

WILSON—On June 4th, 1980,
to Mrs. Wilson, a son, James
Wilson, and a daughter, Sarah
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BLAKE—On June 4th, 1980,
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MARRIAGES

GRAHAM & NISSE—On Saturday,
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DEATHS

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LANE-FRANCIS—Happy
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Your donation could help
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CANCER RESEARCH

In spite of all the progress
made so far, cancer still exists
as a fact that must be faced.
We are now in a position to
know we face a long struggle.
The donation that will help our
war against cancer.

IMPERIAL CANCER
RESEARCH FUND

ROOM 1604, PO BOX 133
LONDON, WC2A 3PX

HAPPY LIVES FOR TODAY

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DOES YOUR BUSINESS WANT A \$250
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Does your business want a \$250
cash prize? If so, then you
should enter the National Cancer
Research Fund competition.

GLIFFAGE (Country House Hotel)

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is a beautiful country house
with a large garden and a
fine view of the sea.

CORDEON BLUE COOKS. See Sits

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OLYMPIAN JOURNAL. See Sits

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BUTLER. See Sits

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SAMUEL. See Sits

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SHAW. See Sits

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STUBBS. See Sits

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WILLIAMS. See Sits

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

ALSO ON PAGES 26 AND 27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPORARY WEEK
IN THE TIMESAre you looking for
temporary work this summer?

Well from the 9th June to 13th June we are running
a special Temporary feature. Carrying a variety of
temporary vacancies from both companies and recruitment
consultants needing staff.

So if you're looking to earn some money this summer
read The Times from the 9th to the 13th June, and find
yourself that super temporary job.

DO YOU LOVE YOUR
CHILDREN?

In the next year 20,000
children may be born handi-
capped. Through medical
advances we are able to open
the doors to a healthier
future for all our children.
Your donation could help
the next year's 20,000 new
children.

CANCER RESEARCH

In spite of all the progress
made so far, cancer still exists
as a fact that must be faced.
We are now in a position to
know we face a long struggle.
The donation that will help our
war against cancer.

IMPERIAL CANCER
RESEARCH FUND

ROOM 1604, PO BOX 133
LONDON, WC2A 3PX

HAPPY LIVES FOR TODAY

People can be provided by your
donation to the National Cancer
Research Fund for the day.

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